

Hafa Adai!

Two men arrested for allegedly robbing a juvenile. **PAGE 2**
Drug defendant gets 51-month prison sentence. **PAGE 3**

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5 of 85 found to be 'dual voters'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Five out of 85 voters have been determined to be "dual voters" or with "dual residency."

Commonwealth Election Commission administrative officer Kayla Igitol said yesterday that CEC administrative hearing officer George Lloyd Hasselback already completed hearing and reviewing the 85 cases that were earlier found by CEC to be "dual voters."

With Hasselback's determination, the five were removed

from the list of registered voters, Igitol said.

Igitol said the names of 80 others were retained on the list as registered voters.

Of the 80, only over 20 called in to explain their position, she said.

Igitol said that Hasselback reviewed all 85 cases.

The results of Hasselback's
See DUAL on Page 4

IPI belies Bloomberg report

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International Holdings, Ltd., is seeking legal advice and reserves the right to pursue legal action against international news

agency Bloomberg on a news story that was posted on its online edition.

IPI is the parent company of Best Sunshine International, Ltd., which operates the Best Sunshine Live training casino inside luxu-

ry mall T Galleria.

IPI, a publicly listed company in the Hong Kong Stocks Exchange that has a market value of \$2.4 billion, released a paid advertisement today in local newspapers—

See IPI on Page 4

New CUC hires prep for big roles



Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board members adopt the agenda prior to receiving public comments during their board meeting on Nov. 15, 2016.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Gilmore



Camacho



Castro

By **MICHAEL T. SANTOS**
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REPORTER

William Gilmore, the newly hired deputy executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and Antonio B. Castro, its new chief financial officer, can't wait to lend their expertise and experience to the

embattled utilities agency.

Gilmore and Castro were brought in under the judicially mandated stipulated order No. 1. Under SO No. 1, CUC must fill executive-level positions, with the utilities agency still waiting on a new executive director as well as a drinking

See CUC on Page 4

BOE mum on Deleon Guerrero hiring

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero kept neutral yesterday on the contentious appointment of Cynthia Deleon Guerrero as Public School System com-

missioner.

In a letter addressed to Guerrero, concerned teacher Alisa Pangelinan claimed that the selection process was "questionable and compromise[ed] the integrity of the overall process."

See BOE on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS

CEOs of major companies are taking stands about the results of the election.

PAGE 16



NATION

Speaker Paul Ryan won his GOP colleagues' votes for another term at the helm.

PAGE 17



ENVIRONMENT

Live octopus? Animal activists now want it off the menu.

PAGE 19



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Local

Car stolen from rental company found burnt in Marpi

A car that was stolen from a rental company was found totally burnt by the landfill in Marpi on Monday morning, according to the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services yesterday.

DFEMS acting information officer Linus L. Mizutani Jr. said the cause of fire is unde-

termined and that further investigation is ongoing.

Mizutani said the department sent a fire truck and a medic unit from the Garapan Fire Station to Marpi by the landfill for a reported vehicle fire on Monday at 10:50am.

Arriving some 10 minutes later, fire lieutenant Raymond

Borja noted that there was no smoke or fire on the vehicle, Mizutani said.

A fire investigator then conducted an initial investigation.

Mizutani said the initial investigation showed that the vehicle was not warm when touched and there were no findings of smoke,

fire or smoldering.

However, Mizutani said, the vehicle was totally burnt.

"Further investigation revealed that the vehicle was a car rental and was reported stolen from the car rental lot," the information officer said.

The type of vehicle was not indicated in the report.

Mizutani said the Department of Public Safety should have more information about how the car was stolen.

As of press time, DPS had yet to release information about the car theft. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Rehabilitation of Tank 103 to start on March 2017

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is set to start rehabilitation work on Tank 103 by March 2017.

During its board meeting last Tuesday, CUC said that work on the project, which falls under stipulated order 2, will commence once CUC's Engineering Environmental Management Company obtains new Capital Improvement Project grants. Estimates set the amount needed at \$3.8 million.

A federal judge has selected Gilbane Federal, a California-based construction company, as CUC's Engineering and Environmental Management Company. As such, it has the power to expeditiously complete some stalled SO2 projects.

Acting executive director Gary Camacho said the rehabilitation work on Tank 103 comes on the heels of Tank 102's completion.

"I'm happy, of course. We have a tank facility that is going to protect our environment while helping secure safe and reliable power through a hardened storage facility for many years to come. It's essential that we keep the power supply ongoing with the required fuel. However, it is as important that our footprint does not impact our lagoon and environment," he said.

Last March, the U.S. Department of the Interior authorized \$730,614 for CUC to proceed with Tank 103 project.

Tank 103 is CUC's only aboveground storage tank that can hold more than a day's supply of fuel. Located in Lower Base, the tank was shut down and repaired due to leaks. The leak reportedly contributes to oil contamination at Power Plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base.

On other updates tackled during Tuesday's board meeting, CUC's Meter Change Out project was said to be approaching 400 outstanding work orders. It entails CUC crew to go about the island to repair leaks and install replacement meters.

CUC is also currently working on 21 water projects on Saipan and one each for Tinian and Rota. As for wastewater projects, nine are on Saipan

while Tinian and Rota currently have none.

"There are no wastewater projects on Tinian and Rota because there are no wastewater systems on Tinian and Rota. There isn't at the time but that is something CUC is looking at, hopefully, at some point in the future to establish a wastewater system," said Camacho.

New applications

Chalan Laulau Dormitories, submitted by The Proper Grand (CNMI) LLC, plans to build a staff housing project southeast of Chalan Pale Arnold and Quartermaster Road intersection.

Sugar King Hotel and Dormitories, another proposal from Proper Grand LLC, will build a new three-story business hotel and three new three-story dormitory for staff workers on the former cockfight arena property.

Newly hired deputy executive director, William Gilmore, said, "I believe there have been a lot of work done and due to the groups that have been prioritizing the projects, it's been working very well. So I don't doubt where we are on for the list of things we should be doing. However, it would be nice to have a fresh set of new eyes to add some perspective on those projects."

The fuel pipeline project has one pending deliverables due to CUC. The large soil stockpile produced during the excavation was removed during the second half of October. Removal of aboveground portions of the old pipeline is pending and will be completed by local contractors for CUC.

In addition to SO1 and SO2 projects, CUC is also working on special projects such as the Power Plant 1 engine replacement and expansion.

"CUC is looking to expand its generating capacity at Power Plant 1 and in doing so a consultant, primarily a construction manager, with the expertise of expanding the power plants and installing the engines, is hired as an addition. So hopefully, in line, we would replace engine No. 8 and also expand the power plant to absorb future demand," Camacho said. *(Michael T. Santos)*

FBI says photo not connected to missing Luhk sisters

The Federal Bureau of Investigation released yesterday photographs that it hoped would lead to new information about two young sisters who disappeared from Saipan more than five years ago. According to an FBI news release, "the photographs were taken inside a Saipan store. The young girl seen in the photographs may have been accompanied by a Caucasian woman, according to a witness."

The FBI later released the following statement: "Thank you for your help in disseminating this information. The quick response from the community has

helped us identify the girl in the photograph and determine she is not connected to the Luhk case."

Faloma and Maleina Luhk, who were ages 10 and 9 at the time, disappeared while waiting for a school bus to arrive on the morning of May 25, 2011. The disappearance sparked a massive community and law enforcement effort to locate the girls.

The investigation into the missing girls is ongoing. The FBI is urging anyone in the community who recognizes the girl in these new photos or has any information to contact the FBI's Saipan Office at 670-322-6934.



The Federal Bureau of Investigation released photographs yesterday that it later said was not connected to the Luhk case.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two men arrested for allegedly robbing boy

Police arrested on Tuesday night two men who allegedly conspired to rob an Asian boy's iPad in San Antonio.

Jose M. Ngeskebei, 20, was arrested in San Antonio for robbery while Terrence C. Cabrera, 25, was apprehended in Afetnas for conspiracy and accessory. Their bail was set yesterday at \$50,000 cash each; preliminary hearing will be on Nov. 23 at 9am.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho said a private counsel will be appointed for Ngeskebei.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Cabrera. Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the government.

Police detective Jeffrey I. Norita stated in his report that the victim and his friend were walking on a trail east of the Sablan compound in San Antonio when a man approached and grabbed the victim's iPad in the afternoon of Aug. 29.

A responding police officer identified the person who grabbed the iPad as Ngeskebei

because of several witnesses.

Norita said he and another detective went to Ngeskebei's house in San Antonio, where the suspect allegedly confessed to the crime. Ngeskebei told the detectives that he and Cabrera

» 1 defendant confesses that his intent was to trade item with 'ice'

were walking on Batu Place where they saw the victim holding an iPad from a distance.

Ngeskebei said he ran behind the victim, grabbed the iPad, and fled.

Ngeskebei said he gave the iPad to Cabrera and told him to wait for him at a friend's house.

Norita said that, according to Ngeskebei, his intention was to swap the iPad for methamphetamine or "ice."

Norita said they met with Cabrera, who went inside a house and came back with the stolen iPad.

Norita said Cabrera stated that Ngeskebei gave the iPad to him to secure for a friend.

Norita said a witness disclosed that prior to the robbery, he overheard Cabrera telling Ngeskebei to hide in a grassy area and wait for the victim to pass. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

OPA begins fiscal year 2016 audit

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor will soon begin its annual single audit of the CNMI government's budget for fiscal year 2016, which ended last Sept. 30. The OPA regularly audits government expenses and prepares a report to maintain the transparency of all departments and agencies of the administration.

Public Auditor Michael Pai is requesting the cooperation of all government entities in assisting Deloitte & Touche LLC, the independent auditing firm that they hired to assist them.

"The CNMI's audit report is required by auditing standards to be issued by June 30, 2017. In order to achieve its objectives, everyone involved must provide full cooperation and prompt assistance to the Deloitte auditors," said Pai in a letter to government departments and agencies.

Pai added that all government units that are subject to

the single audit must also issue their reports no later than May 31, 2017, "to allow enough time for Deloitte to include entities' audited financial information in the CNMI's government-wide audit report."

"Government entities' single audit reports not issued in time for inclusion will have a negative impact on the quality of the CNMI's audit report," Pai added.

The audit done in a timely manner and its quality are factors in getting good financial ratings that would translate to getting federal funds.

"Timely completion and the quality of the CNMI's government-wide single audit are factors in financial ratings by third parties and helps the CNMI obtain federal funding," said Pai. "Therefore, we recommend all CNMI government entities take necessary steps to ensure a smooth audit process such as ensuring that personnel involved in working with the auditors are available, that files needed are complete, and accounting records are up to date."

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

IN SECOND BIGGEST 'ICE' HAUL IN CNMI HISTORY:

Drug defendant gets 51-month prison sentence

One of three men behind the shipment of what is considered the second biggest "ice" haul in the Commonwealth was slapped yesterday with a prison sentence of four years and three months or 51 months in all.

Shicheng Cai was given credit for time served. He has been in jail since his arrest on Dec. 4, 2015. Upon his release from prison, Cai will be placed on three years of supervised release.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona also directed his immediate deportation from the CNMI upon completing his prison term.

Cai will be required to perform 50 hours of community service and pay a \$100 court

assessment fee.

After the sentencing, Cai was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service.

Attorney Mark Hanson is the court-appointed counsel for Cai. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe appeared for the U.S. government.

Cai pleaded guilty in June to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine as part of a plea deal.

Cai testified for the U.S. government during the jury trial of his co-defendant, Zhaopeng Chen, last September.

Cai testified how he and co-defendant Xi Huang shipped from China to Saipan 4.9 lbs. of methamphetamine

or "ice"—in 2015 worth \$850,000—that they concealed in one of nine paint buckets and about Chen's role in picking up the shipment.

Cai, however, agreed with Chen's counsel, David G. Banes, that he is not sure that Chen knew about the drug deal between Cai and Huang. Chen was subsequently found guilty. He has yet to be sentenced.

Huang pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute "ice." He also testified at Chen's trial.

Last August, the court slapped Huang, who was tagged as the leader of the group, with 188 months or 15 years and eight months of imprisonment.

According to the indictment, Huang, Cai, and Chen conspired between Nov. 30 and Dec. 4, 2015, to possess

with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

A routine Customs inspection at the Port of Saipan of a 40-container from Guangzhou, China, resulted in the discovery of the 4.9 lbs. of "ice" hidden in

three plastic bags in one of the nine 5-gallon paint containers last Dec. 2.

Joint federal and local enforcers investigated the shipment, resulting in the arrest of three.

The July 2015 arrest of Zhenlin Fang and Yuliu Liu and the seizure and detection of over 10,700 grams of "ice" then-worth about \$4.3 million is reportedly the biggest drug haul in Commonwealth history.

Suspected 'ice' distributor falls

Members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and Drug Enforcement Administration arrested on Tuesday afternoon a suspected distributor of methamphetamine or "ice" in Gualo Rai.

Jialiang Chen, 25, also known as Brother, was served with an arrest warrant on two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance and two counts of possession of a controlled substance. His bail was set at \$100,000 cash; preliminary hearing is on Nov. 20 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Chen. Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the government.

Task force officer Nicholas Aldan Rabauliman reported that they had been looking into Chen's reported

drug activities.

Rabauliman said that during a "buy-walk" operation, a co-operating defendant managed to buy \$120 worth of "ice" from Chen in a parking lot of a restaurant in Chalan Laulau last Oct. 21.

The same cooperating defendant was able to buy \$240 worth of "ice" from Chen in the parking lot of the same restaurant last Nov. 15, Rabauliman said.

Rabauliman said their test on the seized drugs during the two transactions were presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

Rabauliman did not indicate in the report if they were able to recover more drugs during their search at Chen's house in China Town and in his vehicles. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Man allegedly steals cell phone

A 34-year-old man was arrested in Koblerville on Monday for allegedly stealing a cell phone worth \$850 from an employee of a construction company.

A surveillance camera's footage of Benigno Muna Sablan allegedly led to his identification, according to police detective Iris K. Rangamar.

On Tuesday, a \$10,000 cash bail was set for Sablan's temporary release; preliminary hearing is on Nov. 25 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Sablan. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

Rangamar stated in her report that a patrol officer responded to 5 Star Builder's Construction in San Antonio last Oct. 31 after a woman reported that her cell phone had been stolen.

The victim told police that she was getting ready to go to the Department of Labor in the afternoon of Oct. 31 when a man, later identified as Sablan,

walked into their office, asking for her boss. The victim told Sablan that her boss was in a meeting. Sablan then explained that he was selling a 5-gallon bucket of paint. The victim called another staff to check on the paint. The staff and Sablan went outside the office. Later, the staff told the victim that Sablan left after he told him that they have enough paint.

When the victim was in her car and was about to make a phone call, she noticed that she didn't have her phone. She went back to her office but could not find the phone. She reviewed the surveillance camera's footage and found out that Sablan took it.

Last Nov. 3, two detectives reviewed the footage in which they saw Sablan, wearing a white shirt with "D&G" printed on the front, with dark pants and a black baseball cap, walk into the office. Sablan then allegedly picked up a cell phone off the victim's table and placed it behind his back. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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BECQ: Hot seawater imperils Saipan corals

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Coral reefs on Saipan are in danger due to bleaching caused by the warming of the Pacific Ocean, according to Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality marine biologist and technical adviser Lyza Johnston. Coral bleaching occurs when seawater temperatures get too warm for the corals, causing them to expel the algae that give the corals their color.

Current reports by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have it that 2016 was the second warmest year to date. The situation is made worse by the Pacific Ocean phenomenon called El Niño, which also causes sea temperatures to rise.

Because of the warm tem-

perature, the seawater has been warming up, causing corals to bleach. The bleaching of corals pose as a threat to the tourism industry of Saipan since the corals are one of the attractions for visitors who come to the islands.

The Saipan lagoon, one of the more popular dive sites on Saipan, is home to numerous coral reefs. According to Johnston, the corals in the lagoon are greatly stressed and 85 percent of the species known as the “staghorn coral” is already dead in BECQ monitoring sites.

“We have a lot of stress on the corals in the lagoon specifically,” she said.

“We have set up long-term monitoring sites in the lagoon and we’ve lost up to 85 percent of staghorn corals at our long-term monitoring sites. There are areas outside of our sites

that are still alive, but we think our sites are pretty representative of what is going on in the lagoon,” added Johnston.

Johnston said that major coral bleaching happened during 2013 and 2014, and just a little for 2016. This, however, does not mean that the corals are doing well.

“Most of the bleaching we’ve seen is from thermal stress that the climate change is causing. The atmosphere is getting warmer and the sea surface is getting warmer as well. Corals have a very narrow temperature tolerance and corals actually have a symbiotic relationship with microscopic algae that lives in their tissue and when the water gets too warm, they expel the algae, which is the reason why they look white,” said Johnston.

Johnston clarified that

corals that are bleaching are not dead.

“They are not dead at that point. The tissue of the coral is transparent, kind of like a jellyfish, so what you’re seeing is the exoskeleton underneath—but they are not necessarily dead. If the water doesn’t cool down quickly, and they don’t regain their symbiotes, they will die, though,” said Johnston.

Another enemy of the corals are the species known as the crown of thorns starfish, a multiple-armed starfish that feed off of coral polyps, preventing it from developing into a coral reef.

“We do monitor for the crown of thorns starfish. We’ve had breakouts in the past, but we haven’t seen any abnormally high numbers for 2016,” said Johnston.

Johnston said the monsoon

systems during the summer helped the seawater cool down to some extent, but said that society must do its job in order to preserve the coral reefs of Saipan.

“Local scale threats will essentially reduce the coral’s resilience, such as land-based sources of pollution, habitat destruction, people stepping

on the corals, and sedimentation from pollutants will actually make them bleach faster,” said Johnston.

“What we can do locally is reduce all of those stressors and keep them as healthy and strong as possible so they are able to better resist thermal stress and other global scale stressors,” she added.

CUC

From Page 1

water and wastewater division manager.

“I look at this as an opportunity to bring my own skill sets into an area that hasn’t been filled in for a number years,” said Gilmore. “So I wanted to bring my experience, which consists of operational experience in consulting as well as an executive director, to accumulate some of the benefits and efficiencies of having seen how we can do things at other locations. We can apply those teachings here and offer some opportunities to add new efficiencies and ideas. It is a very creative opportunity for me and I’m looking forward to several years of active conversations and progress to the benefit of the community in Saipan.”

The current executive director of CUC is Gary Camacho, who occupies the position in an acting capacity.

Gilmore said he has a transparent relationship with Camacho.

“I rely on him to give me advice on stuff he knows because I don’t really know some of the technicalities here. ... We are in sync, we talk the same language, and we are both forward thinking and we want things to get done right,” he said.

Camacho, for his part, acknowledged the instant rapport with Gilmore: “We are working very well together. We are a group that is driven to address stipulated order projects both one and two and we’re going to achieve what we set out to do.”

Castro himself is optimistic,

saying, he has had experience as a budget officer, financial analyst, accounting chief, auditor, and an inspector general.

“Being that I’m originally from here, I feel like I have the education and training that could be used in the CNMI. Seeing that the economy is growing, I think it is a great opportunity to assist in that,” Castro said. “Even though we are not financially stable, as a CFO, my job is to bring that up, look for ways to do things better, smarter, and cheaper while benefiting everyone at the same time. It will be difficult at first, but with the right mindset, we can achieve it through hard work. In the end when I can deliver water, power, and sewer to the CNMI and keep them comfortable on those aspects, I will feel like I have achieved my job.”

Camacho said with Gilmore and Castro on board, CUC is on the road to recovery.

“I think the new addition with the CFO, [deputy executive director], and eventually the division manager will add to an already strong team that has been put together in the last year. Staff development is an essential part of...moving forward,” Camacho said. “The organization is heading in the right direction. We’ve got an excellent team and we’re all working together to deliver outstanding utility services to the CNMI.”

CUC is plagued by an aging power plant, power grid overtaxed by an increase in economic activity, as high as 70 percent loss of water it produces, and insolvency due to power bills owed by the government and residential customers, among other issues.

BOE

From Page 1

To that, Guerrero declined to comment.

“I have no reaction to that. The Board of Education needs to review the letter,” he said.

Guerrero said he was trying to maintain neutrality on the issue and that hopefully the board would be able to address the issue in their special meeting on Friday, Nov. 18.

An online petition on change.org called for support for the CNMI Board of Education’s selection of Deleon Guerrero. The petition already had 101 signers as of 9pm last night. It insists that the Board of Education followed its hiring regulations.

“This action by these few teachers is a disruption to the management of PSS and a blatant disrespect and lack of understanding of the democratic and autonomous process of the BOE,” it added.

Other teachers, who agreed to speak to *Saipan Tribune* on the condition of anonymity, shared the same sentiments

as Pangelinan and pushed the same thing—transparency in the selection process.

A group of teachers questioned Deleon Guerrero’s qualification, claiming that candidates Glenn Muña or Ignacia Demapan would fit better in the role of commissioner.

The same group also pointed out that Deleon Guerrero is too new to PSS.

Another teacher within the same group speculated that the BOE’s criteria were adjusted to fit Deleon Guerrero.

One of the teachers, however, opted to remain optimistic and insisted that people give Deleon Guerrero a chance.

“She has big shoes to fill,” said the teacher, claiming that former commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan has been a big help to PSS and wondered whether Deleon Guerrero could handle the position.

Another teacher wondered how the selection process went.

“I have nothing against [Deleon Guerrero], but the fact that we don’t actually know how she got the position

brings up questions. That is one thing we want to know as teachers,” she said.

Another teacher shared a different opinion.

“I don’t really have much to say because I don’t know the new commissioner who was appointed. I’m just disappointed that they didn’t go off-island to seek candidates. I think being on the island, everybody is related to everybody, and it’ll just be really nice to have some outside influence. There a lot of things that needed to be changed...and it would be nice to have a different perspective,” said the teacher.

A few teachers, however, thought that it was worth giving Deleon Guerrero a shot at the position before being critical.

“I don’t really have an opinion because what I know is she was first a Human Resource director, so I don’t know much about her and I think if she was doing a good job as an HR director, which I am not hearing anything bad, then why not,” she said.

Another said, “I’m not re-

ally sure. We’ll find out how things go. We won’t really know how things would go unless things go into office, takes over, and see how things run with PSS. I really can’t say much. Hopefully it’s for the best,” she said.

A statement from the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres congratulated Deleon Guerrero’s appointment.

“Since the retirement of Dr. Rita Sablan over three months ago, I am pleased that the Public School System can now focus on the years to come. I congratulate Mrs. Cynthia Deleon Guerrero and look forward to working together in raising the quality of education in the CNMI and reiterating the importance of investing in our youth. Education remains one of our top priorities to better the lives of our community and the health of our economy.”

Deleon Guerrero’s contract as PSS chief would start on Nov. 21. Deleon Guerrero’s acceptance of the offer has already been communicated to the BOE last week.

wrongdoing. “[BSI] has implemented stringent internal control measures and has applied an anti-money laundering system to ensure compliance with all applicable U.S. laws and regulations.”

They then requested the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to halt the trading of its shares from 9am on Tuesday to 9am on Wednesday.

IPI is building the Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel Saipan (formerly Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort) in Garapan and is targeting a soft opening in the second quarter of 2017.

They said that they had put in place strict measures to avoid any financial crime or

on its log data, at Best Sunshine Live have been below 300. Best Sunshine Live only has 38 gaming tables that serve five to six customers each.

“Each night, around 100 customers could not be arranged with a seat and had to queue or stand [in order] to participate,” added IPI in the statement.

They wanted to make it clear that BSI has not received any investigation notice from the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

The board also declared that BSI’s visitor headcount, based

in the statement. “The Group has never received any investigation notice from the U.S. Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.”

IPI’s board of directors clarified that the allegations made by Bloomberg in the story are false. Reporters Daniela Wei and Matthew Campbell co-wrote the story after almost a week on Saipan more than a month ago.

“The board is seeking legal advice and reserves the right to pursue legal actions against the unfounded report,” added IPI in the statement.

The board also declared that BSI’s visitor headcount, based

IPI

From Page 1

two days after the Bloomberg story came out—clarifying that the allegations are false.

Bloomberg’s story reported that the U.S. Department of the Treasury is looking into IPI’s casino operations on Saipan. Bloomberg has questioned the cash flow per table that BSI has reported.

“[IPI] has noted certain media articles [on Nov. 14] stating that U.S. regulatory authority was investigating into [BSI’s] casino on Saipan,” said IPI

DUAL

From Page 1

dual voter registration hearings are among the items to be discussed by the CEC board at their meetings on Nov. 21 and 22 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Supe at 9am.

Other items on the agenda is the creation of a tabulation committee for absentee ballots and the certification of the 2016 general election results.

Igitol said that 984 absentee

ballots that arrived at the post office last Nov. 8 will be processed at the Multi-Purpose Center on Nov. 21 at 9am.

Igitol said they just want to make sure that the absentee voters have complied with the requirements.

Igitol, however, emphasized that they will just process the 984 absentee ballots and not count them. She said the counting will be done on Nov. 22.

CEC expects more absentee ballots to arrive at the post office on or before the scheduled Nov. 22 tabulation.

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Veterans Memorial Park unveiled on Tinian

On Veterans' Day, Nov. 11, 2016, Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas and other island leaders unveiled Tinian's own Veterans Memorial Park.

San Nicolas also recognized all Tinian veterans with special mention of Tinian veterans who have passed on. In his opening remarks, he quoted

American physicist Neil de-Grasse Tyson who said, "A paltry few countries in the history of civilization have gotten to choose their leaders. How

lucky we are to be among them" and acknowledged how lucky the United States is to have a military that protects this privilege with valiance,

honor, and selflessness.

San Nicolas also extended his appreciation to the Tinian leadership for their support of Tinian's veteran community.

"We began 2016 by dedicating a veteran's pavilion as a space for current and former service members to gather in fellowship. In September, the Tinian Mayor's Office, with the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and Bridge Investment Group, raised almost \$2,000 for the fight against [post-traumatic stress disorder] in the CNMI," said San Nicolas. "Today, I would like to announce that through our supplemental medical assistance program, we will pay for our veterans to go to Saipan for their medi-

cal services. At the same time, we are working closely with Delegate [Gregorio] Kilili [C. Sablan (Ind-MP)] as to how Tinian veterans can maximize the services of Veteran's Affairs. In addition, the Tinian delegation will include in its next local appropriation the inclusion of medical subsistence for Tinian patients who suffer from PTSD."

The Tinian's Veterans Memorial Park was originally built during former mayor Ignacio Quichocho's administration with the intention of building a leadership memorial. San Nicolas thanked former mayor Quichocho for his role in making the event possible. **(PR)**

Police response to rape crucial for justice

NADI, Fiji—Rape is the most traumatizing crime, short of murder, that can be committed against a person and police officers need to be sensitive to this when dealing with survivors.

Police officers from 11 Pacific countries have been undergoing a two-week training course on gender, violence against women and legal literacy on laws against gender-based violence in Nadi, Fiji.

Funded by the Australian Federal Police and facilitated by the Fiji Women's Crisis Center, the intensive workshop gathered 30 officers who have been learning about gender inequalities, the causes of violence against women and how to sensitively respond to survivors of such offenses.

The officers discussed the definition of rape, why it happens (the exercise of power and control due to gender inequalities), and the impact of rape on survivors. Rape is about power and control with sex being the weapon used to humiliate, intimidate and create fear, the officers heard.

When survivors of rape presented themselves at police stations, the reception they received and how officers responded to them were critical if justice for the survivor was to be achieved and for the perpetrator to be punished for the crime.

Research shows that only a small proportion of sexual assault and rape are ever reported



Police officers from Fiji and Tonga participate in the Police Regional Training Program at the Hexagon Hotel in Nadi, Fiji.

ed to the authorities so police officers should not do anything that would re-victimize a survivor—mostly women, girls and boys—when they gather up the courage to come to a police station.

Making comments or asking questions that implied a woman who reports a rape was somehow at fault or was lying was common, although the officers attending the course now understand this further erodes a woman's trust in the police and discourages her from seeking justice.

An enduring myth about a cause of rape is that dressing and behavior led to rape; however, in any given country victim-survivors of rape ranged from babies, girls and boys to women of all ages. Even dead women were not safe from being violated,

with documented cases of necrophilia following disasters such as the Aitape tsunami in Papua New Guinea in 1998.

The officers shared their experiences of dealing with survivors with a common challenge being the collection and preservation of evidence. Survivors of rape often felt the urge to wash themselves so officers were reminded of the urgency of collecting evidence from the person's body before allowing the person to shower.

Investigation tools such as "rape kits" were unavailable in many police stations although they were critical in helping police officers solve rape offenses and secure convictions.

Women do not all react to or cope with rape the same way; not all survivors will be distraught and sobbing. Officers needed

to recognize that some women may appear calm and collected even though they may be suffering from internal turmoil. A single incident of rape has vast ripple effects on the woman, her family and community.

Reforming discriminatory legislation is vital in combating sexual offenses but it was important that legislation was gender-sensitive rather than just gender-neutral.

Even in countries that had reformed their laws or ratified the UN Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women discriminatory legal provisions such as corroboration of complaints of sexual assault or past sexual history of a complainant were sometimes applied.

The workshop ends on Friday, Nov. 18, 2016. **(PR)**

6 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged six Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are Wing Beach, DPW Channel Bridge, Granvrio, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, and Hopwood Middle School.

Samples collected from these locations contained ex-

cessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to our dear boss, Shirley Kim! We wish you all the happiness in life. Keep being healthy and more birthdays to come. Greetings come from the staff and management of the Hotel Sun Palace, Make-over Beauty Salon, and the Northern Marianas Badminton Association.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Crystal Star Corporation dba Mountain ATV-UTV

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Crystal Star Corporation dba Mountain ATV-UTV proposes to operate an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) – Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) Tour in the Rapugao/Sadog Tasi areas. This use is classified as "Amusement Outdoor, Intensive" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. The project is located on Lot No. 1330, Tract No. 22655-1, EA 801-3, and EA 801-4. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Date: December 01, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School - Cafeteria San Roque

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, November 30, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Saipan Globe International Group Limited dba Saipan Globe Hotel

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Saipan Globe International Group Limited dba Saipan Globe Hotel is proposing to construct a 9-storey hotel with 15 villas, restaurant, and shopping malls. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in San Roque on Lots Nos. 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22, 008 B 23, 008 B 24, 008 B 48 and 008 B 50. These lots are zoned as Tourist Resort.

Date: December 01, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School - Cafeteria San Roque

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, November 30, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Northern Mariana Islands Football Association dba NMI Soccer Training Center

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Northern Mariana Islands Football Association dba NMI Soccer Training Center is proposing to construct a soccer field and training facility. This use is classified as "Stadium" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Koblerville next to the Fire Station on Lots 005 & 604. It is zoned as Public Resource.

Date: December 01, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School - Cafeteria San Roque

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, November 30, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**Wage and salary statement workshop**

The Division of Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement, Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2016 and other 2016 yearend filing requirements. The workshop will be on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Please confirm your attendance by calling the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000 and 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. **(PR)**

Holiday closures at Visitor Center

The American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed in observance of the upcoming federal holidays:

■ Nov. 24, 2016, Thanksgiving

■ Dec. 25, 2016, Christmas Day

■ Jan. 1, 2017, New Year's Day

Park staff would also like to encourage the public to visit the Visitor Center. With the exception of the holidays closed, the VC is open every day from 9am to 5pm.

If you have any questions, contact park ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 or 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. **(NPS)**

Free health screening today

In observance of Diabetes Awareness Month, avail of free health screenings for all agencies today, Nov. 17, 2016, from 8am to 12pm at the Department of Public Lands conference room. There will be a blood glucose check, blood pressure check, and cholesterol check. For more information, call 236-8727 or 236-8728. **(PR)**

Holiday bazaar on Dec. 4

The annual Brilliant Star School Holiday Bazaar will be held Sunday, Dec. 4, from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for the holidays. Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827). For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children. The daylong event is also graced by performances throughout the day by various community cultural and arts groups. There will also be raffles. **(PR)**

FOA to hold board meeting

The Friends of the Arts will hold a board meeting on Nov. 29, 6:30pm to 9pm, at the Canton Restaurant, across from the Mobil/McDonald's in Garapan. The meeting will include musical and thespian entertainment. There will be a detailed discussion regarding the 2017 season and the opportunity to renew membership and purchase season tickets. For more information, contact Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com. **(PR)**

PH mobile outreach on Saipan

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI Glicerio Arago, said the biometrics capturing of e-passport applications will take place on Nov. 15-19, at Studio 29:11; 2F DHL office, Chalan Lau-Lau, Middle Road, Saipan. Please note that all e-passport applications require personal appearance. Please wear proper attire (i.e. shirt with collar). Applicants are advised to be present at the venue on the date and time indicated in the schedule. Due to the start of the new ePassport system, we are strictly implementing the cancellation of "no show" applicants. For more information and confirmation, call (670) 233-6293 and ask for Mel Santos. **(PR)**

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, December 01, 2016 • 5:00 PM
Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, San Roque
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 11/03/2016 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (*not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings*)

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2016-4168: Crystal Star Corporation dba Mountain ATV-UTV proposes to operate an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) – Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) Tour in the Rapugao/Sadog Tasi areas. This use is classified as "Amusement Outdoor, Intensive" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. The project is located on Lot No. 1330, Tract No. 22655-1, EA 801-3, and EA 801-4. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Conditional Use Application #2016-4040: Northern Mariana Islands Football Association dba NMI Soccer Training Center is proposing to construct a soccer field and training facility. This use is classified as "Stadium" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Koblerville next to the Fire Station on Lots 005 & 604. It is zoned as Public Resource.

Conditional Use Application #2016-4038: Saipan Globe International Group Limited dba Saipan Globe Hotel is proposing to construct a 9-storey hotel with 15 villas, restaurant, and shopping malls. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in San Roque on Lots Nos. 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22, 008 B 23, 008 B 24, 008 B 48 and 008 B 50. These lots are zoned as Tourist Resort.

C. Communication**D. Old Business**

1. None

E. New Business

1. Office Operations Reports (Permits, Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session**G. Miscellaneous**

- a. Other Matters
- b. Announcements
- c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

CASH COLLEGE

Step-By-Step Workshop to Help You Find Thousands of \$\$\$ for College for the Spring 2017 Semester!

SAIPAN

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016, 9am - 12pm
NMC's Building A

TINIAN

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016, 10am - 2pm
NMC Campus

ROTA

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016, 8:30am - 11:30pm
NMC Campus

Attend Northern Marianas College's FREE Cash for College Workshop and receive personal assistance in completing forms for:

- Free Application for Fed. Student Aid (FAFSA)
- SHEFA, Tinian or Rota Municipal Scholarship
- CNMI Scholarship
- Other Financial Aid

Although not required for entry to the workshop, please bring the following documents to help you complete the scholarship forms at the workshop:

1. ID: Passport, Birth Certificate, or Green Card
2. Official Transcript (3 Official Copies)
3. Tax Forms: Your or your parents' signed 2014 1040 form (2014 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes)
4. Proof of CNMI residency for 2014 and 2015 (for example, CNMI 1040 tax form, Employment Verification from your employer, Official Transcripts, Voter's Certification, etc.)

The Cash for College Workshop is funded in part by a grant from the USDOE AANAPISI Program.



United sets course to be the best airline for everyone

CHICAGO—United Airlines presented to its investors yesterday plans for long-term earnings growth through a number of strategic initiatives across the airline. These initiatives include improving network connectivity and revenue management, broadening product segmentation and introducing additional customer enhancements. Along with maintaining disciplined cost control, this strategy is expected to generate \$4.8 billion in earnings improvement by 2020.

“As we approach the new year, our operations are running well, our employees are more

energized than ever, and we are ready to unlock United’s full potential,” said Oscar Munoz, chief executive officer. “Today, we are talking about what’s next for United. We now have the strategy and organization in place to be the best airline in the world—for employees, customers and investors.”

More choices

To further meet customers’ needs and provide more options to price-sensitive travelers, the company announced the introduction of Basic Economy fares. This new offering provides customers the option of paying the lowest fares to their destinations, while still receiving the same standard economy experience, including food, beverage, Wi-Fi and personal device entertainment, with a few key differences. Customers who choose Basic Economy will be assigned seats on the day of departure, be assigned to boarding group five and be permitted only one personal carry-on item that must fit under the seat. The new offering provides the added benefit for customers and employees of simplifying the boarding process, as fewer customers will bring overhead bags on board. Complete details on Basic Economy can be found at united.com/basicconomy.

“Customers have told us that they want more choice and Basic Economy delivers just that,” said Julia Haywood, executive vice president and chief commercial officer.

In addition to Basic Economy, United will continue to offer economy, Economy Plus and domestic first class, and it remains on track to introduce

its reimagined international premium travel experience, United Polaris, on Dec. 1. The company is evaluating a new premium economy experience for domestic and international markets.

Revenue management

The company also announced its plans to fully optimize its network potential by continuing to leverage its leading international position while strengthening its domestic network, including improving the bank structures at key hubs in Chicago, Houston, and Newark/New York, and further improving both schedules and product in top business markets.

In addition, United is improving its revenue management system to more accurately

forecast demand to better maximize profitability on each flight. The company expects these system improvements to drive \$900 million of incremental revenue by 2019.

Aircraft order book

The company announced a modification to its narrow-body order book. The company is converting its original order for 65 737-700 aircraft into four 737-800 aircraft to be delivered in 2017 while the remaining 61 will be converted into orders for 737 MAX aircraft, with delivery dates to be determined. These changes will allow United to take advantage of the superior fuel efficiency of the MAX aircraft while also reducing capital expenditures by approximately \$1.6 billion

through 2018.

In addition, the company has agreed to purchase 24 Embraer 175 aircraft from Embraer, instead of leasing these aircraft through a capacity purchase agreement as was originally planned. These aircraft will be leased to third party carriers operating as United Express.

The company will continue its rigorous cost management program and expects 2017 unit costs to grow 3.5 percent to 4.5 percent excluding fuel. The company expects 2018-2020 unit costs excluding fuel to grow less than 1 percent per year due in part to its plan to remove \$700 million of costs by 2020, as compared to 2015 levels.

Building on success

United has made significant

progress in operational reliability, with an improvement of nearly 10 percentage points year-to-date in on-time departures. The company plans to further improve performance.

The company also is accelerating its mobile strategy, including next steps for its award-winning mobile app, which has more than 14 million downloads.

United currently has ratified agreements for all of its employee groups, with the exception of its technicians, who are represented by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The technicians are expected to vote on their contract before the end of the year.

United Airlines and United Express operate more than 4,500 flights a day to 339 airports across five continents. **(United)**

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FLORENCIO Q. FALIG,

Defendant.

**Civil Action
No. 15-0192**

**NOTICE OF AUCTION
and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgement made and entered in the above titled action on the 11th day of May, 2016, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgage Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **5th day of December, 2016 at 10 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgement, to wit:

Lot 001 G 18, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 02 the original of which was recorded 20 MAR 1986 as Document No. 86-0513 and also recorded 16 FEB 1989 as Document No. 89-0511 at the Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a) Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.

b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c) To reject any and all bids.

2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. **Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 21st day of October, 2016.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

GMS students garner top awards in forensic league

All members of a small group of sixth grader students from Green Meadow School garnered top forensic awards at the first National Junior Speech and Debate Competition held on Oct. 22, 2016 at Hopwood Middle School.

Despite their hectic schedules and school days crammed with academic and extracurricular activities, the sixth graders still managed to deliver outstanding results during this weekend event. It was their first time to compete at this middle school forensic competition. They were all filled with nervousness and apprehension as they saw the numbers of contestants and whom they will be competing against with. But then, with prayers and support of their

Green Meadow School teachers and president proudly pose with winning six graders who are all winners in the recent National Junior Speech and Debate Competition held at Hopwood Middle School.

parents, coach, and principal, they withstood these challenges.	2 nd place, Humorous Interp A Cloe Lagmay: 3 rd place, DUO -B 4 th place, Prose A Jazmyn Lopez: 3 rd place, DUO -B, 3 rd place, Prose B Bheri Daniel, 3 rd place, Poetry A Daniel Gonzales: 3 rd place, Humorous Interp B	3 rd place, Humorous Interp B Raeka Lantin: 4 th place, DUO-A Leunyce Regalado: 4 th place, DUO-B Samantha Flores: 4 th place, DUO - B Faith Cacdac: 5 th place, Dramatic Interp B, 5 th place , Impromptu A
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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp



FRANCES A. CASTRO
Director



Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator



FRANCES A. CASTRO
DCRM Director

**NOTICE OF MEETING
OF THE
CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Monday, November 21, 2016 at 9:00 AM** at the Office of the Mayor of Rota.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

a) Call to Order
b) Roll Call
c) Adoption of Agenda
d) Adoption of November 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

II. PERMIT APPLICATION

1. Rota-DPW Coral Quarry Pit
CRM Permit Application No. RMS-2016-X-086
a) Project Introduction
b) Discussion by CRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
c) Permit Application Status

III. OTHER MATTERS


IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ **FRANCES A. CASTRO**
DCRM Director



PUBLIC NOTICE



Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fourteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a **Special Board Meeting on Friday, November 18, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the Federal Programs Office Conference Room, Building 1203, Capitol Hill, Saipan.**

AGENDA¹

I. Preliminary

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments²

III. New Business

1. PSS Bank/Check Signatories
2. Head Start Program Right-Sizing Amendment
3. Certification & Licensure Matters
a. CLO Report No. 2016-002
4. Commissioner of Education

IV. Executive Session³

1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

V. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

VI. Adjournment

¹ In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

² Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

³ Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH
OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

JULIO E. YAP
Petitioner,

-vs-

EMERITA SISON YAP
Respondent,

J FCD-DI
J CIVIL ACTION
J NO. 14-0023
J
J SUMMONS FOR
J PUBLICATION
J

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:
EMERITA SISON YAP YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is _____ as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court



A media team from *Madame Figaro Japan* dined at Surf Club on Nov. 8, 2016, as part of their visit to Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

MVA

ate for a much lower in-kind support cost.

"*Madame Figaro Japan* features travel information on hotels, gourmet food, and visitor sites in various destinations, and we look forward to the Northern Marianas being featured in their February 2017 issue," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

While on Saipan, the media

team photographed at Marpi, Pau Pau Beach, Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center, Mariana Ocean, I Love Saipan, in downtown Garapan, and other sites. Hotels filmed were Aqua Resort Club Saipan and Hyatt Regency Saipan, where the group lodged. A number of restaurants will also be featured, including Hyatt's Giovanni's Restaurant, Salty's, Café at the Park, Casa Urashima, Cha, Surf Club, and 747 Restaurant.

The group was also granted film permits by the Department of Public Lands. (MVA)

Magazine: 7 things to do in the Marianas

Japan magazine *Madame Figaro Japan* visited the Northern Mariana Islands on Nov. 6-10, 2016, to prepare a feature article titled "7 Things to Do in the Marianas."

The magazine circulates 80,000 print copies monthly and has 4.8 million online page views a month, targeting women in their 20s to 40s who are interested in travel

and fashion. The article on the Northern Marianas has an estimated ad exposure value of \$200,000, coverage which the Marianas Visitors Authority was able to negoti-

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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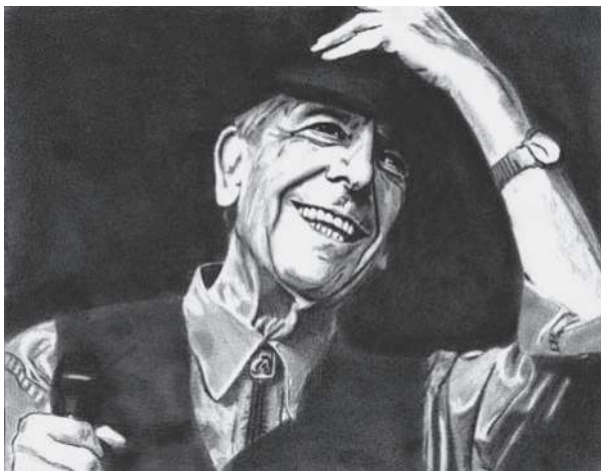
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EDITORIAL

Leonard Cohen: The Canadian's haunting work will endure



Leonard Cohen was not a household name, but many of his songs will endure in the popular imagination. The French-Canadian singer-songwriter, who died Thursday at 82, wrote such familiar pop hymns as “Suzanne” and “Hallelujah.”

His sepulchral monotone was instantly recognizable to music fans drawn to his spare guitar playing and dark lyrics that examined everything from death, disillusionment, addictive love, God, saints, devils and everything in between. Cohen was never the “I wanna hold your hand” type.

Before he became an unlikely pop star, Leonard Cohen was a well-known poet with several books and major Canadian literary awards to his name. He split his time between Greece and his native Montreal. Despite his success as a poet, he was drawn to American music and left Canada for Nashville and Los Angeles once he had enough songs in hand. Like all aspiring folk artists, he eventually found himself in New York's Greenwich Village.

For many rock aficionados, Leonard Cohen's only lyric-writing rival is Nobel laureate Bob Dylan, who became a friend. Where Dylan dashes off lyrics in a frenzy, Cohen took a methodical approach, laboring over lyrics for years.

Cohen's fan base stretched across generations and genres. His fellow musicians from U2 and Elton John to Herbie Hancock and REM adored his dark poetics as much as his millions of fans did. He taught us all to appreciate that even though there's “a crack in everything,” it also lets the light in.

(c)2016 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



Better late than never

By **JAMES SHARPE**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: This article is being published in three parts due to its length.

First of a three-part series

After nearly a half-century of inaction, the reach of U.S. mining law will finally be extended far westward beyond Hawaii beginning on April 1, 2017, when the Mine Safety and Health Administration says it will begin enforcing the Mine Act in several far-flung U.S. localities in the Pacific Ocean.

“It just dropped out of the sky on us,” MSHA assistant secretary Joe Main said when asked why the agency was just now getting around to enforcing the law in a number of Pacific islands that have been under its jurisdiction, yet have been left untouched since at least 1969. Those lands are the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

In a telephone interview in September, Main said he could not explain why previous MSHA administrators had not enforced mine safety in these territories. But he indicated that the localities came to the agency's attention in July 2014 due to a complaint concerning a potential highwall hazard at a mine in American Samoa. The complaint was never confirmed, but it did put the country on MSHA's radar screen. A quick check of Section 3(c) of the Mine Act revealed Guam and the CNMI, formerly a part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, should be included as well.

For their part, the islanders were blindsided by the development. “It was a bit of a surprise to the U.S. territories when we popped into their life, as you can imagine,” Main recalled.

The initial physical interaction between the feds and island operators, all metal/non-metal mines, came in May 2015. According to a CNMI news source, that's when MSHA Western District manager Wyatt Andrews and his assistant, Paul Belanger, met with government officials and traveled around the archipelago to identify mines. The survey also encompassed Guam and American Samoa.

The CNMI consists of a crescent-shaped chain of 15 islands in the northwestern Pacific. The CNMI is bordered on the east by the Pacific Ocean and on the west by the Philippine Sea. The capital is on Saipan, the largest of the islands. Guam is the southernmost island in the CNMI chain but is independently governed. American Samoa lies southeast of the CNMI in the South Pacific. Distances among the Pacific islands are immense. American Samoa is 3,600 miles from Guam and the CNMI. Honolulu to the American Samoa capital, Pago Pago, is 2,600

miles; Honolulu to Saipan, 3,700 miles. In contrast, New York to Los Angeles by air is 2,450 miles.

While little knowledge was needed to identify larger mines, island government officials were surprised to learn that MSHA classified some its smaller operations as mines, too. “They [the governments] didn't even know these were mines,” said Main, referring to such operations as those supplying lava for building construction and producing sea shells for aggregate.

During his May 2015 visit, Andrews told authorities MSHA would not begin to enforce the law until 2020, according to the news source, the *Saipan Tribune*. However, Andrews was back in March 2016 with a more urgent message: enforcement would begin on Oct. 1, 2016. That date has since been set back to April 1, 2017, at least in part due to local political pressure for more time to come into compliance.

Training and compliance assistance visits

Seasoned U.S. operators might wonder why MSHA, after finally gearing up to oversee these mines, is taking so long to lower its enforcement boom. Main's answer for the “slow walk,” as he described it, is because of “the primitive environment that exists in that region that was never regulated,” and thus the necessity for an extensive amount of hand-holding in the form of educational outreach and training assistance. “We've been doing that for quite some time,” Main said.

The agency put on six days of training over a two-week period last April for operations in Saipan and Guam under the auspices of MSHA's Educational Field and Small Mine Services Group. The first three days focused on new miner training; the second three, on train-the-trainer classes, according to the *Saipan* newspaper. Operators in American Samoa apparently

were trained a month earlier. Main said his agency also hosted a visit by U.S. territory governmental officials in September at the Mine Academy in Beaver, West Virginia, where they were briefed on training programs. They were also taken on a mine tour to “give them an idea of what regulated mining looks like,” the agency's chief said.

Obviously unhappy over federal intervention, companies participating in the training groused about its effectiveness. As quoted anonymously by the *Tribune*, individuals complained that the training was “sadly condensed, bereft of useful content, and far inferior” to other federal training initiatives. “It was clearly an ‘information dump’ on all quarry and mine operators in the CNMI, done more to regulate rather than help us understand and implement these complex and costly regulatory burdens,” the newspaper reported participants as saying.

To be continued

James Sharpe, a certified industrial hygienist, is the former vice president of Safety and Health Services for the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, a trade group based in the Washington, D.C. area that supports the U.S. aggregate mining sector.

» MSHA to enforce Mine Act in Pacific after 50 years of inaction

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Millennials, stop grouching; there's work to be done

Ido not expect most of the nation's young people will ever get used to the idea of President Trump. That's OK. You are not required to like our new president. But the millennials who are feeling down after the election shouldn't just sit back and watch this nation, or the world, go down a path you disdain. It's time for your generation to stand up and forge your own political plan of action.

First: Stop complaining about how the election system doesn't work. The Electoral College has been ignoring the will of the people since the Constitution was written; that's not the main reason Donald Trump won. He was elected because too many people, including millennials, sat home and complained about their choices instead of voting for Hillary Clinton.

Data from the Pew Research Center show the millennial generation—18- to 29-year-olds—is now about as large as

the Baby Boomers. Millennials had the power to decide the election, or at least strongly influence the outcome, but instead many stepped aside and let their parents and grandparents, who voted in double their numbers, choose Trump, according to estimates from the U.S. Elections Project. National exit-poll data found millennials made up 12 percent of voters this year, compared to 19 percent in 2012. People ages 65 and older made up 26 percent of voters.

■ You need to use your energy and your voice to advocate for change. Pick your top two priorities: the environment, the economy, women's rights, immigration. Then make sure your voice is heard. Volunteer for a cause you believe in, donate and call or email your U.S. representatives and demand they vote to take action on things like the Paris climate agreement, for example. Talk about these issues at the Thanksgiving table and have these same discussions with your friends.

■ Consider branching out and advocating on behalf of the people who feel left out of the economic boom you have benefited from. Washington state just passed a new minimum-wage law; now push for an increase in the federal minimum wage. Support job-creation legislation. Advocate for free college for all. You do not need a sympathetic ear in the White House to succeed in making changes like these.

■ Broaden your social network. Look beyond social media and interact face-to-face. Get out of the echo chamber, politically and demographically. Join a community group or congregation. Have an open mind. Find your middle ground and work together on issues that matter, like homelessness or gun safety.

■ Change can begin at home. Many of our nation's biggest recent political achievements started in states and local municipalities. Gay marriage, pot legalization, minimum-wage increases, common-sense gun laws. Some of these ideas even had their roots in Washington state. Anyone can propose a bill to a lawmaker or gather signatures and put an initiative on the ballot. If you don't know your lawmakers, make appointments to visit them in their

By **DONNA GORDON BLANKINSHIP**

The Seattle Times



Donna Gordon Blankinship is a special contributor to the Seattle Times. Readers may email her at dblankinship@seattletimes.com.

district offices. Share your concerns. Start an online petition. Testify before legislative committees. Run for office if you're not getting the action you want. Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant first ran for office to push for a higher minimum wage.

■ On the national scene, remember that the president has limited powers that are balanced by the other branches of government. If you want immigration reform and a path to citizenship, join an advocacy group and lobby Congress. March on Washington, people. It's been done to great effect in the past, to stop the Vietnam War and to fight for civil rights.

If you don't like the two-party system, be part of expanding our political scene. But don't wait until 2020. Sign up now to organize people to run for local office, or run yourself and advocate on the state and national level. The same effort could be applied to amending the Constitution to eliminate the Electoral College.

Millennials, it's in your hands to make sure this nation elects the president of your choice in 2020. If you're not registered to vote, today would be a good day to change that. Go online to register: st.news/register-to-vote. Hold a party, set up some computers and have all your friends do the same. Tell them they can't have a beer or glass of wine until they have registered.

Now get to work.

I made a principled choice in voting for Trump

By **EDDIE GOODALL**

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

You know the saying that goes, "The media can't tell one what to think, but it sure can tell one what to think about?"

The 2016 presidential race was that axiom's ultimate confirmation. It told us to think about Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. It directed us, by nanosecond, to think about how they looked, what they said, what they did decades ago, ad nauseam. And those things were, in fact, what we thought about for 18 months.

But what I contemplated in my voting booth was quite different. I, finally, was not thinking about Trump or Clinton. I was thinking about what our country would be under a government piloted by each, given a likely Republican Congress, and how my life would be affected based upon which button I pressed.

I forgot about the bankruptcies, locker room language, email servers and private foundations.

I voted for a government, not a president.

These are the questions I asked myself. Did I want a government that believed that people are so inherently good that if someone commits a crime, it would be government's responsibility to reflexively fix something? Or should we assume that human beings are indeed flawed and that bad behavior is the individual's burden? Which government would then stress behavior over feelings?

Which government would support free speech and religious liberties over the repression of anti-PC or divergent opinion, and the growing walling off of spirituality? Which would look at me first and foremost as an individual over labeling me a member of a group? Which would support the notion that a role of government is to ensure justice and leave compassion to people? And lastly, do I want a smaller government to provide for a strong national defense and economic opportunity for all, or a more bloated government, prioritizing making everyone happy?

I don't accept the media-driven notion that Americans are dramatically more divided than ever. There have always been liberals, conservatives and those in-between. That the race for president was contentious was healthy for a vibrant democracy (although I would have liked less Trumpian insolence). Our social, economic, racial, religious and other differences exist and there is work to do to help the plight of so many. But those disparities have also been magnified just as the Trump and Clinton personas were made bigger than life.

Our vote results on Nov. 8 said the nation prefers a government that more closely stands for governance and principles as laid out by the Republican Party. That was the crux of the election's meaning.

That's what, not whom, I voted for.

Eddie Goodall was a state senator in North Carolina. He wrote this for the Charlotte Observer. Readers may email him at wgoodall@gmail.com.

Demographics may favor Democrats—someday

For years, researchers have predicted that changing U.S. demographics—the rising tide of Hispanics, blacks, Asians, Pacific islanders, city-dwellers, educated women and young people who don't attend church—will create an unbeatable majority for the Democratic Party.

Well, it didn't quite happen in 2016.

Hillary Clinton won the popular vote among all stripes of Americans—but whites, especially fundamentalists, tipped the electoral majority to Donald Trump. Exit polls said 81 percent of white evangelicals chose Trump.

How long can the GOP keep winning as a mostly-white party? In the future, Census Bureau projections foresee a relentless "browning of America"—and most of the minorities tend to vote Democratic.

By 2040, minorities will pass 50 percent, and traditional European whites will become a minority in America (although they will continue to control most wealth and power).

Conservative columnist George Will says Republicans are wrong to depend on the "kamikaze arithmetic of white nationalism." He wrote:

"Arizona whites have gone from 74 percent to 54 percent of the population in 25 years; minorities will be a majority there by 2022. Texas minorities became a majority in 2004; whites are now 43 percent of the population. Nevada is 52 percent white and projected to be majority-minority in 2020. Georgia is 54 percent white, heading for majority-minority in 2026. ... In 2016, Republicans won a ruinous triumph that convinced them that they can forever prosper by capturing an ever-larger portion of an ever-smaller portion of the electorate."

Researcher Steve Phillips wrote a book titled "Brown is the New White: How the Demographic Revolution Has Created a New American Majority."

Minority people—often treated as outsiders—generally have

By **JAMES A. HAUGHT**

Tribune News Service



James A. Haught is editor emeritus of West Virginia's largest newspaper, The Charleston Gazette-Mail. He can be reached by phone at 304-348-5199 or by email at haught@wvgazette.com.

liberal, progressive, humane values and tend to support the Democratic Party. Their relentless increase helps Democrats. But they often don't vote.

Author Phillips says the Democratic Party could secure a strong, permanent, national edge if it focused more money and energy on recruiting minority voters through low-cost, door-to-door personal contact.

He outlined this strategy in a New York Times analysis titled "How to Build a Democratic Majority that Lasts."

Churchless Americans who say their religion is "none" have become the largest single bloc in the Democratic Party base. They're growing steadily, and now are the nation's biggest faith category. The Public Religion Research Institute says "nones" have reached 25 percent of the adult population, outstripping Catholics (21 percent) and white evangelicals (16 percent). They're destined to increase more, because 39 percent of adults under 30 have no church affiliation.






Unfortunately, the churchless are poor voters. Evidently they shun politics as much as they shun religion. A quarter of them aren't even registered to vote. In the 2012 election, when they comprised 20 percent of U.S. adults, they were only 12 percent of voters. In 2016, as one-fourth of the populace, they were 15 percent of voters, according to Pew Research.

Will all these varied minorities someday constitute a Democratic powerhouse? I hope so. But remember, groups aren't monolithic. Some blacks, Hispanics, educated women, agnostics and the like voted for Trump (only God knows why).

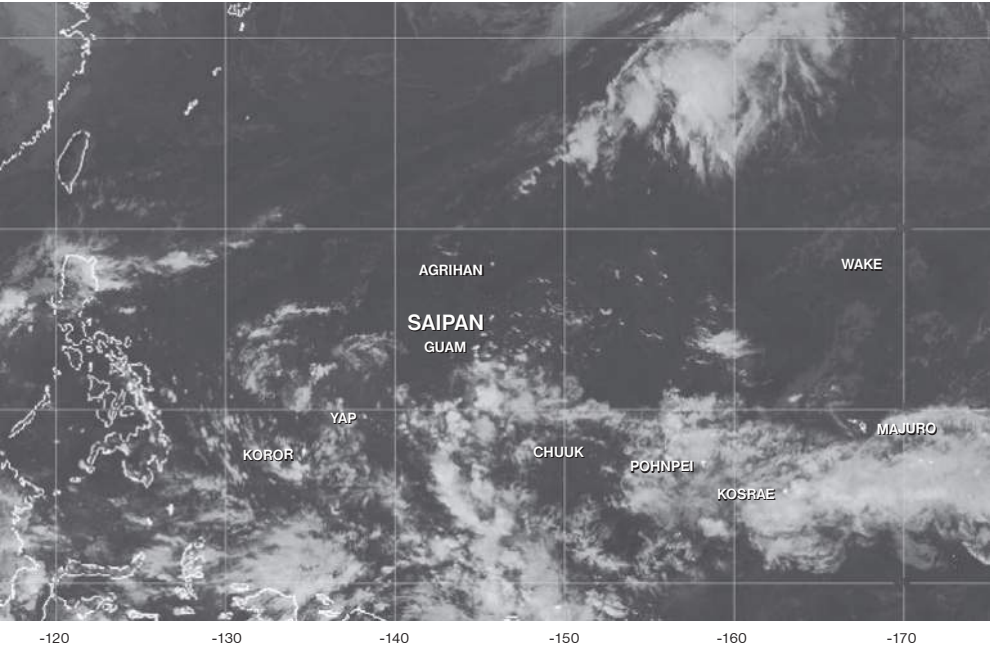
The tide of demographic change is unstoppable. Eventually, I hope, Democrats may become an inclusive "rainbow" party with better chances for success. It almost happened in 2016. As losers say in sports, wait till next time.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:05 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows only a few showers within the Marianas waters. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen well east of Guam waters. They are moving westward, but should not arrive before late afternoon. The VAD wind profile reveals east winds of 7 to 12 knots just off the surface which increase to 14 to 20 knots through the lowest 6 thousand feet of the air. An almost dry-season looking pattern as the deep tropical moisture is getting shunted south of 10N.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Morning clouds	82 / 89 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	77 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	80 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Heavy rain	81 / 85 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	82 / 85 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Mostly cloudy	54 / 60 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	31 / 43 °F
Hong Kong	Sunny	72 / 81 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	72 / 80 °F
London	Morning clouds	46 / 53 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	50 / 70 °F
Manila	Morning clouds	80 / 92 °F
Melbourne	Morning clouds	48 / 82 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	66 / 77 °F
New York	Sunny	48 / 58 °F
Osaka	Scattered clouds	39 / 64 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	49 / 55 °F
Pusan	Sunny	42 / 63 °F
Rome	Afternoon clouds	40 / 60 °F
Salem	Partly sunny	39 / 51 °F
San Francisco	Mostly sunny	48 / 61 °F
Seoul	Sunny	34 / 59 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	44 / 61 °F
Washington, DC	Sunny	42 / 61 °F



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- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
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- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
3:22 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.62 Feet
10:16 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.09 Feet
3:57 PM	LOW TIDE	1.06 Feet
8:50 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.0 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:22 AM	5:44 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	8:34 PM	8:46 AM
Friday	9:33 PM	9:46 AM
Saturday	10:31 PM	10:42 AM
Sunday	11:27 PM	11:33 AM
Monday	-	12:19 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
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SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

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IMPERIAL PACIFIC

IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

博華太平洋國際控股有限公司

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

Stock Code: 1076

CLARIFICATION ANNOUNCEMENT AND RESUMPTION OF TRADING

Imperial Pacific International Holdings Limited (the “**Company**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”) has noted certain media articles on 14 November 2016 stating that US regulatory authority was investigating into the Company’s Best Sunshine casino in Saipan. Having made all reasonable inquiries, the Board of Directors of the Company (the “**Board**”) hereby clarifies that the allegations are false and declares that:

1. according to the Group’s internal log data, since 2016, the visitor headcounts at 10:00 p.m. of Best Sunshine casino have been below 300. As there are only 38 gaming tables in the casino and each table is able to serve 5 to 6 customers at the same time, our service capacity has saturated. Each night, around 100 customers could not be arranged with a seat and had a queue or stand to participate;
2. the Group has never received any investigation notice from the U.S. Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network;
3. the Group has implemented stringent internal control measures and has fully applied an anti-money laundering system to ensure compliance with all applicable US laws and regulations.

The Board is seeking legal advice and reserves the right to pursue legal actions against unfounded report.

Trading in the shares of the Company was halted at the request of the Company with effect from 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 15 November 2016 pending the release of this announcement. An application has been made by the Company to The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited for the trading in its shares to resume from 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 November 2016.

By order of the Board
Imperial Pacific International Holdings Limited
Cai Lingli
Executive Director

Hong Kong, 15 November 2016

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises Ms. Cai Lingli and Ms. Xia Yuki Yu as executive directors; and Mr. Eugene Raymond Sullivan, Mr. Robert James Woolsey, Mr. Ng Hoi Yue, Mr. Tso Hon Sai Bosco and Mr. Lee Kwok Leung as independent non-executive directors.



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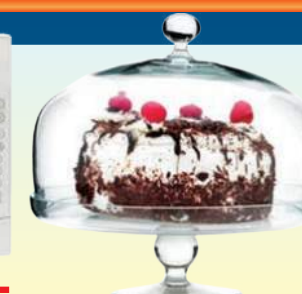


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Business

After election rupture, CEOs seek unity for staff, customers

NEW YORK (AP)—Apple CEO Tim Cook is telling his employees to “keep moving forward.” Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg is saying “progress does not move in a straight line.” T-Mobile’s CEO John Legere tweeted “let’s see what an out of the box, non-typical, non-politician can do for America!”

CEOs of major companies are taking stands about the results of the election—a departure from the traditional model of not mixing politics with business that major brands have long espoused.

Some are using it as an opportunity to bring their employees together following a divisive election campaign. Others are using it as an opportunity to stress their companies’ values and mission, or an opportunity to make nice with Trump, who many CEOs were publicly against during the campaign.

The men and women who head the nation’s biggest companies know that having a hostile relationship with the Trump administration could make doing business difficult. They also



In this April 12, 2016, file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks during the keynote address at the F8 Facebook Developer Conference in San Francisco. CEOs of major companies are taking stands about the results of the November 2016 U.S. election, a departure from the traditional model of not mixing politics with business that the major brands have long espoused. Zuckerberg said “progress does not move in a straight line.”

know that they operate in liberal bastions like New York and San Francisco just as much as in Trump-leaning places like Fort Wayne, Indiana, or Charleston, West Virginia.

“Neutral is the best policy,” says John Challenger, CEO of workplace consultant Challenger, Gray & Christmas. T-Mobile’s Legere, who long was vocally opposed

to Trump, congratulated the president-elect on Twitter for his victory last week, while holding off on judging the president-elect’s policies. Meanwhile another telecom-

munications executive, Sprint CEO Marcelo Claure, himself an immigrant and personally opposed to Trump, sent an email to employees saying that “it’s our obligation to accept the will of our fellow Americans and respect the new leader.”

It’s possible that Legere and Claure made nice because the president appoints the chairman and commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission, an agency that holds enormous influence over the telecommunications industry. All five FCC commissioners will see their terms expire during Trump’s first term.

CEOs of automakers, in-

cluding Ford’s Mark Fields, have also struck a conciliatory tone, partly because Trump has called for the repeal or renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which has allowed the automakers to set up shop in Mexico tariff-free.

Many CEOs publicly expressed hope that the tensions dividing the country will diminish, and that American consumers will set aside their fears and get back to what they do best: shop.

“We are hoping that in the postelection we are just going to see people ready to spend,” said Marvin Ellison, CEO of JCPenney.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Twitter adds new options to curb abuse, harassment

NEW YORK (AP)—Twitter, long criticized as a hotbed for online harassment, is expanding ways to curb the amount of abuse users see and making it easier to report such conduct. Twitter said Tuesday that it is expanding a “mute” function that lets people mute accounts they don’t want to see tweets from. Now, users will be able to mute keywords, phrases and conversations they don’t want to get notifications about. Users who decide to mute things won’t see them. The words, phrases and conversations will continue to exist on Twitter, and anyone who doesn’t mute them will continue to see them. But the company is also making it easier to report hateful conduct, and said it has re-trained its support teams about its policies and hateful conduct.

Ford CEO says production plans on track despite election

DETROIT (AP)—Ford Motor Co. CEO Mark Fields says the presidential election won’t change the company’s plans to move small car production to Mexico. President-elect Donald Trump has repeatedly criticized Ford for moving production to Mexico. Trump wants to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement and has called for a 35-percent tariff on goods shipped from

Mexico. In an interview with CNBC Tuesday, Fields said Ford is proceeding with its plan to move Focus car production from Michigan to a new plant in Mexico by 2018. He stressed that no jobs will be lost, since the Michigan plant will make two other vehicles. Fields also warned that a tariff would affect the entire industry—and autoworkers’ profit-sharing checks—since many companies sell Mexican- and Canadian-made vehicles or parts.

Google teaches machines to become more fluent translators

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google is promising that its widely used translation service is now even more fluent, thanks to an advance that’s enabling its computers to interpret complete sentences. That may sound simple, but it took years of engineering to pull off. Until now, Google’s technology analyzed phrases in pieces and then cobbled together a sometimes stilted translation. Now that Google’s machines can interpret entire sentences, the translations of extended passages of text should read and sound much more like a native speaker of the language. The technology, dubbed “neural machine translation,” is similar to what Google has been using for the past few years to identify people and objects in pictures stored in its Photos service.

After complaints, Trump-branded buildings being renamed

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump’s name is being stripped off three luxury apartment buildings after hundreds of tenants signed a petition saying they were embarrassed to live in a place associated with the Republican president-elect.

In all, about 600 residents of the three rental towers in Trump Place signed the online petition, which began circulating weeks ago after the public release of a decade-old recording of Trump boasting about grop-

ing women and kissing them without their consent.

Tenants learned on Tuesday from the company that owns and manages the New York skyscrapers, which hold 1,325 rental apartments, that the huge gold letters spelling out “Trump Place” would be removed from the sides of the buildings within days.

“We’re all very excited and thrilled, and it’s about time,” said Marjorie Jacobs, who has lived in one of the buildings for five years. “We’re disgusted with the re-

sults of the presidency.”

A spokeswoman for Trump’s transition team, Hope Hicks, didn’t immediately return a request for comment on Tuesday. She told The New York Times in October that removing the Trump name would cause a building to “lose tremendous value.”

A spokesman for Equity Residential, the Chicago-based company that owns and manages the buildings, said its executives considered “the input of our residents” among other factors when making the

decision to change the buildings’ names. Spokesman Marty McKenna said in an email that a “neutral building identity” might hold more appeal to current and future residents.

The letters spelling out Trump’s name could come down as soon as Wednesday, residents said. They will be replaced with the buildings’ addresses.

Several neighboring towers that also bear the Trump Place name but have different owners are sticking with the Trump brand.

Study: Corruption seen as a great challenge in Europe, Asia

BERLIN (AP)—One in three people in Europe and Central Asia see corruption as one of the greatest challenges for their countries, but a similar number fear retaliation of they speak out against it, according to a study released Wednesday by an international corruption watchdog.

Transparency International said that within the European Union, Spaniards were

the most likely to see corruption as one of the biggest problems, with 66 percent saying it was. Least likely were Germans, with 2 percent. Other countries seen by their citizens as having the biggest corruption problems were Moldova, Kosovo, Slovenia and Ukraine.

Moldovans and Ukrainians also topped the list of those believing their politicians

are corrupt, with 76 and 64 percent respectively. In addition, 86 percent of Ukrainians rated their government as being bad at fighting corruption, followed by 84 percent of Moldovans.

The Berlin-based Transparency International spoke to 60,000 people in 42 countries in Europe and Central Asia for the survey.

Overall, 30 percent of re-

spondents said corruption goes unreported because people fear the consequences, 14 percent said because it was too difficult to prove, and 12 percent said it wasn’t reported because they believe nothing will be done.

The study found only one in five bribe-payers reported the incident, and two in five who do report suffer some form of retaliation.



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Australian Dollar	0.9301	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7566
British Pound	0.8013	Indian Rupee	67.765
Canadian Dollar	1.3427	Indonesian Rupiah	13395
Chinese Yuan	6.8687	Japanese Yen	109.023
Euro	0.9301	Malaysian Ringgit	4.369
		New Zealand Dollar	1.41
		Philippine Peso	49.25
		Singapore Dollar	1.4146
		South Korean Won	1168.7
		Swiss Franc	0.999
		Taiwan Dollar	31.78
		Thailand Baht	35.43

Nation

House GOP nominates Ryan as speaker, with Trump's support

WASHINGTON (AP)—Speaker Paul Ryan unanimously won his GOP colleagues' votes on Tuesday for another term at the helm of the House. He told fellow Republicans he had President-elect Donald Trump's support, and heralded "the dawn of a new, unified Republican government."

"It feels really good to say that actually," Ryan told reporters. "This will be a government focused on turning President-elect Trump's victory into real progress for the American people."

While victory was the GOP unifier, Democrats were verging on disarray. House Democrats abruptly announced Tuesday that they were delaying their own leadership elections set for Thursday until Nov. 30 to give lawmakers more time to process disastrous election results.

It's not clear whether the

election delay might morph into a real challenge to Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. She has led House Democrats for more than 12 years and has consolidated support with strong fundraising and an ability to deliver votes, but there's long been grumbling from Democrats who say new leadership is needed at the top.

As for Ryan, the Wisconsin Republican still has to win a floor vote for speaker in January, when all members of the House will cast ballots, including Democrats.

But he secured the nomination at a closed-door GOP conference vote Tuesday afternoon with the strong backing of his fellow House Republicans, even though a few conservative dissenters pushed unsuccessfully to delay the balloting.

Those grumbings of dis-



AP
House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis. speaks with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016, after a House Republican leadership meeting.

Lawmakers trooped out of their morning meeting in the basement of the Capitol smiling, pledging quick action to roll back President Barack Obama's accomplishments and clutching red "Make America Great Again" hats.

"That was a nice fun touch. Now here's my problem: Every member wants it autographed," said GOP Rep. Chris Collins of New York, who has been tapped as congressional liaison to the transition team. "I'm going to have to say, 'President-elect Trump, bring out your Sharpie, we've got to do a lot of autographing.'"

During the meeting, Ryan told colleagues that he'd spoken Tuesday morning with Vice President-elect Mike Pence, who said that he and Trump "are very supportive of the leadership team and are looking forward to working with them," said Rep. Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyo.

Police: Shooting of Southwest Airlines employee was planned

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—A gunman lay in wait outside Oklahoma City's Will Rogers World Airport on Tuesday before shooting and killing a Southwest Airlines employee in a premeditated attack that occurred while hundreds of people waited for flights nearby, police said.

Michael Winchester, 52, was shot while walking between a crowded terminal and the airport employee parking area. The unidentified suspect was later found dead in a pickup truck in public parking garage overlooking the scene. Police said the suspect appeared to die of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Oklahoma City Police Capt. Paco Balderrama said the shooter apparently knew the victim's schedule and routine.

"This individual went there and waited for the employee to either be coming or going to take this opportunity," Balderrama said. He wouldn't say conclusively that it was a "sniper-type" attack.

The 1 p.m. shooting set off a scramble at the airport, with police immediately closing the sprawling complex and asking passengers inside to seek cover.

They diverted incoming flights and refused to give already-loaded aircraft permission to leave. There were concerns the gunman might

have entered the terminal and mingled among passengers or employees.

"We have a heightened level of security all the time. These people have access to aircraft so we're very concerned about that," airport spokeswoman Karen Carney said.

Winchester—whose address is listed as Washington, Oklahoma, about 35 miles south of the airport—was a former University of Oklahoma football player whose son James is a player for the Kansas City Chiefs.

"It is with great sorrow that Southwest Airlines confirms that a Southwest Employee who was injured during a shooting incident today at Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City has died from injuries," the airline said in a statement. It canceled flights out of the city for the remainder of the day even though the rest of the terminal planned to reopen.

Hundreds of people were stranded inside the terminal for more than three hours before officers began letting them leave slowly. Carney said about 300 people were held on aircraft away from the terminal after their planes landed ahead of a ground stop.

Once police determined that a suspect found in a red pickup truck on the second floor of a public parking garage was dead, officers gave an all-clear.

sent could hardly be heard over the buzz of enthusiasm as House Republicans convened for their first regular conference meeting since Trump won the presidential election. Even though a number of

House Republicans, including Ryan, had opposed Trump or were critical along the way, most said they're now firmly on board and prepared to try to enact Trump's agenda on immigration, infrastructure,

energy and jobs.

Republicans also backed California's Kevin McCarthy to continue as majority leader and Steve Scalise of Louisiana to stay on in the No. 3 job of House whip.

Trump breaks protocol—again—on press access

NEW YORK (AP)—President-elect Donald Trump emerged from his New York skyscraper Tuesday night for the first time in days, moving about the nation's largest city without a pool of journalists on hand to ensure the public has knowledge of his whereabouts.

The president-elect spent about two hours dining with family at the 21 Club, a restaurant a few blocks from his Trump Tower residence. Journalists were only aware that Trump was leaving home when they spotted a large motorcade pulling away from the

building, including an ambulance with lights flashing.

The movement was a surprise given that Trump's campaign had already called a "lid"—a signal to journalists that he would not be venturing out for the rest of the day. The practice is meant to ensure that journalists are on hand to witness, on behalf of the public, the activities of the president or president-elect, rather than relying on secondhand accounts.

Trump spokeswoman Hope Hicks issued the lid at 6:14 p.m. But just over an hour lat-

er, Trump's motorcade left his residence. His whereabouts became clear only after a fellow diner tweeted a picture of the president-elect arriving at the restaurant.

Hicks said she was unaware that Trump planned to leave his home and had not intended to leave the press in the dark. She said the Trump team was working toward setting up a protective pool in the near future.

Trump traveled from New York to Washington last week without a pool of journalists. He's since spent most of his time inside his New York

building, with his transition team offering few details about his schedule.

Every president and president-elect in recent memory has traveled with a pool of journalists when leaving the White House grounds. News organizations take turns serving in the small group, paying their way and sharing the material collected in the pool with the larger press corps.

The White House depends on having journalists nearby at all times to relay the president's first comments on breaking news.

Bring your own weed: Denver allows pot in bars, eateries

DENVER (AP)—Denver has approved a first-in-the-nation law allowing people to use marijuana at bars, restaurants and other public spaces such as art galleries or yoga studios.

The catch: Patrons could use pot as long as it isn't smoked and the locations would have to seek the approval of neighbors.

Denver voters approved Proposition 300 as eight other states legalized marijuana for medical or recreational purposes last week. The Denver vote was so close that it took an entire week for supporters to claim victory and opponents to concede.

"It's the sensible thing to do," said Emmett Reistroffer, a Denver marijuana consultant and campaign manager for the pot-in-bars measure. "This is about personal responsibility and respecting adults who want to have a place to enjoy cannabis."

The city measure takes effect immediately, but it has a lot of caveats.

First, interested bars and restaurants would have to show they have neighborhood support before getting a license to allow marijuana use. In addition, patrons would have to bring their own weed to comply with

state law banning the sale of both pot and food or drink at a single location.

Patrons at participating bars could use pot inside as long as it isn't smoked. The law does provide for the possibility of outside smoking areas under restrictive circumstances.

Mason Tvert, a spokesman for the national Marijuana Policy Project and a Denver proponent of the consumption law, said the measure would reduce instances of tourists smoking pot on sidewalks and in parks because they have nowhere private to consume weed.

A Denver billboard promot-

ing the measure featured a large arrow pointing to a sidewalk below, telling voters that without a provision for social pot use, folks will keep smoking pot in plain view.

"We are setting up a system that is still more restrictive than what we see with alcohol consumption," Tvert said.

Supporters of the measure had no guess on how many establishments would apply for the permits or how long it would take for them to demonstrate community acceptance and receive permits. So it could take many months before Denver sees any Amsterdam-style coffee shops.

Asia

Chinese companies have 'big enthusiasm' to invest in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Beijing trade official said Tuesday that Chinese companies have “very big” enthusiasm about investing in railways and airports and other major infrastructure projects in the Philippines, and his government will encourage them to build an industrial park.

Wu Zhengping of China's Ministry of Commerce said the two countries have agreed to hold a meeting of a joint trade and economic commission early next year and sign a six-year plan to boost trade and investment.

Wu told a news conference the joint trade commission has not met for five years.

A territorial conflict between China and the Philippines worsened during that pe-

riod, but relations have started to improve after President Rodrigo Duterte took office in June and reached out to China while taking an antagonistic stance toward treaty ally the United States.

Duterte made a state visit last month to China, where he announced he would be separating from the U.S.

Philippine Cabinet officials later walked back on his stunning pronouncement, saying Duterte meant he wanted to chart a foreign policy that is not closely oriented toward Washington.

“After the successful and historic visit of the president to China, there has been enthusiasm from the Chinese companies,” Wu said. He said he met Philippine trade, transport and

economic planning officials during his visit to Manila.

Asked for an estimate of prospective Chinese investment, Wu said, “I think the enthusiasm and sincerity of the Chinese companies are very big.”

He said Chinese companies are looking at investing in airports, railways, expressways and seaports, and would wait for the Philippine government to outline the infrastructure projects the country needs most.

While campaigning for election earlier this year, Duterte said he would “shut up,” apparently in reference to his country's territorial disputes with Beijing, if China builds railways in the south, where he served many years as a mayor, and finances other transportation projects.

Pakistanis says thousands fleeing Indian shelling in Kashmir

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Indian shelling has forced thousands of villagers from their homes in Pakistani-controlled Kashmir, a Pakistani lawmaker said Tuesday.

The evacuation from villages in the Bhimber district came after seven Pakistani soldiers were killed by Indian shelling on Monday. The two sides have repeatedly traded fire in recent weeks across the Line of Control that divides the Himalayan region.

The nuclear-armed rivals each claim Kashmir in its entirety, and have fought two of their three wars over its fate.

Waqar Noor, a member of Kashmir's Legislative Assembly, said authorities were mak-

ing arrangements to accommodate thousands of villagers from Bhimber, who are currently sheltering in open fields or the homes of relatives.

Noor said the villagers would most likely shelter in schools, but that the government may set up a “tent village” if the number of evacuees keeps growing.

Wakalat Hussain, a farmer from the village of Bania, said the shelling and heavy gunfire forced the villagers to flee, leaving their homes and animals behind.

“Like thousands others, I'm lying here under the open sky with five children and my wife, with no arrangements for food and shelter,” Hussain said by phone. “At least we

don't have to fear being killed by the constant Indian shelling.”

Another farmer, Muhammad Khadim from the village of Kheruwal, said he, his wife and their seven children passed a sleepless night listening to the shells explode before fleeing from their home near the Line of Control.

Raja Farooq Haider, the prime minister of Pakistan-held Kashmir, told reporters that the government may have to provide shelter to up to half a million people if India escalates its “aggression” across the Line of Control. The prime minister said the government has so far made arrangements for sheltering some 50,000 villagers.

US, Philippine special forces to hold joint war drills

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—U.S. and Philippine special forces will begin annual combat exercises on Wednesday in a sign such joint drills are continuing despite vocal opposition by the Philippine president.

The U.S. military says that so far there's been no reduction in cooperation with the Philippines, a longstanding U.S. ally, despite President Rodrigo Duterte's threats to do so and his expressed desire to expand security ties with China and Russia.

But in a sign of a possible restriction, Philippine army spokesman Col. Benjamin Hao said Tuesday both the U.S. and the Philippines have agreed to forego live-fire drills in the field during the

month-long Balance Piston exercises which will take place in the western province of Palawan.

He said about 40 elite Filipino troops are taking part but wouldn't say how many Americans. He didn't give a reason for dropping the live-fire maneuvers.

The Philippine defense department has said Duterte wants such overt assault drills to be discontinued.

In Washington, Adm. Harry Harris, the commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said Tuesday that there's been no change so far in U.S.-Philippine military cooperation.

He said U.S. special forces are still advising the Philippines in counter-terrorism in the country's south, U.S. sur-

veillance aircraft have continued rotational deployments at Clark Air Base, and plans for enhanced defense cooperation agreed by the previous Philippine administration remain on track.

“There are five Philippines bases that they have agreed to allow us to use. That hasn't changed so far and I have no reason to believe that will change. I will know more next week,” Harris told reporters.

Next Tuesday, Harris said he will meet in the Philippines with the chief of staff of its armed forces, Gen. Ricardo Visaya, to discuss the schedule for military exercises in the coming two years. Harris said there could be a “re-scoping” of some of the big exercises in 2017.

World

In eastern Mosul, civilians clamor for food, cigarettes

MOSUL, Iraq (AP)—Explosions and gunfire rattled parts of eastern Mosul and Islamic State militants fired mortars from apartment windows Tuesday as Iraqi special forces waged fierce urban combat in the country's second-largest city.

Hundreds of civilians filled the streets clamoring for food and cigarettes in recently retaken neighborhoods where supplies were running low. Some of the troops handed over their own rations.

Iraqi forces say they have largely cleared the neighborhoods of Zahra and Qadisiya in eastern Mosul after pushing into the area Nov. 4. The operation to retake the militant-held city began Oct. 17 and troops made swift progress before their advances slowed once they pushed into more densely populated areas.

Iraqi forces moving in from the south have maintained slow progress and remain more than 20 kilometers (12 miles) from central Mosul.

Russia announces major operation in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—Russian missiles pounded opposition targets in Syria on Tuesday, the start of a much-anticipated offensive, while activists reported the resumption of bombing in rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo for the first time in nearly a month, apparently by Syrian government warplanes.

The Russian blitz began hours after President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President-elect Donald Trump discussed Syria in a phone call and agreed on the need to combine efforts in the fight against what



AP
Internally displaced people flee fighting between Iraqi forces and Islamic State militants on a road in eastern Mosul, Iraq, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016.

“This morning, we have like 1,000 people from the civilians, who escape from this area to safer area,” said Ali Tahseen, a special forces soldier in eastern Mosul.

Mosul has been under the tight control of the extremists for more than two years and is still home to some 1 million civilians. Aid groups have warned of a humanitarian crisis if hundreds of thousands are forced from their homes during the military operation.

“This is a problem for us

because the food we have is not enough for them and we're waiting for more food to be sent from the government,” said Maj. Salam al-Obeidi. “Now the Iraqi soldier is giving his food to the civilians.”

Residents gathered on the streets to exchange news. A long line grew outside a shop selling cigarettes, where people argued and bought dozens of packs each now that the extremists and their smoking bans were gone.

the Kremlin called their No. 1 enemy—“international terrorism and extremism.”

Russia said its offensive, using long-range missiles and its carrier-borne jets in combat for the first time on opposition areas in Syria, focused on rebel-held northern Idlib province and parts of the central province of Homs. It didn't mention the besieged eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo.

The new offensive was a sharp snub to the Obama administration and its policy toward Syria, and augurs a

major escalation in the coming days that would put tens of thousands of civilians in serious danger.

Months of negotiations between Moscow and the Obama administration have failed to cement a long-term cease-fire in Aleppo, which has become the focus of the war between President Bashar Assad and rebels fighting to topple him, some of whom receive U.S. aid. Al-Qaida's Syrian affiliate is fighting alongside the rebels, but the Islamic State group has no presence in Aleppo.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian minister detained over alleged \$2M bribe

MOSCOW (AP)—A senior Russian Cabinet minister has fallen very suddenly from grace, accused of bribery and abuse of office but seen by many observers to be the victim of a Kremlin power play to ensure that President Vladimir Putin remains the ultimate arbiter in Russia. Economic Development Minister Alexei Ulyukayev was detained late Monday, immediately after he allegedly took a \$2 million bribe in a sting set up by the FSB domestic security agency, the Investigative Committee said

in a statement Tuesday.

On Tuesday, Putin fired Ulyukayev without waiting for the court to determine whether he's guilty, citing a “loss of trust,” according to the Kremlin.

UN committee flags Iran over human rights

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—A U.N. committee on Tuesday urged Iran to cease enforced disappearances and the widespread use of arbitrary detention and has expressed serious concern about severe limitations on freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief.

The General Assembly's human rights committee approved the measure by a vote of 85 in favor, 35 against and 63 countries abstaining. The assembly is virtually certain to adopt the resolution when it's put to a vote next month. The measure welcomed pledges by Iran's president to eliminate discrimination against women and ethnic minorities as well granting greater space for freed of expression. But it also expressed concern over the “alarmingly high frequency” of the death penalty and urged Iran to eliminate laws and practices that constitute human rights violations against women and girls.

Environment

Live octopus? Animal activists want it off the menu

By GEOFFREY MOHAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Writhing octopus, prawns and other seafood have been plated at Los Angeles restaurants for many years. The Japanese and Korean dishes are openly advertised, reviewed by food critics and patrons, and posted on YouTube.

Animal rights activists say it's time to take the dish off the table.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals this week released video of squirming octopus tentacles and twitching shrimp heads served up at Korean restaurants in Los Angeles and New York.

Live slaughter of seafood appears to fall in a loophole in California law, according to PETA. Animals slaughtered for eating are not covered in the Cruelty to Animals statute, and food regulations allow restaurants to keep live seafood.

PETA activists went to several restaurants in Los Angeles in September, and chronicled octopus, lobster and shrimp being served while still moving.

The group hopes consumers will pressure legislators to ban the practice. But the organization hinted it may not stop there. "We're taking no other options off the table until live animals themselves are taken off the table," said spokesman Ben Williamson.

Owners of Los Angeles restaurants where PETA said the live seafood was served were not available for comment.

At the heart of the campaign is San Nag-jik, a Korean dish of writhing octopus tentacles seasoned with sesame, which is served in more than a half-dozen restaurants in L.A.'s Koreatown, according to Yelp. PETA chronicled



In this 2007 photo, Alexander Lee, owner of Masan Restaurant in Los Angeles, Calif. shows a baby octopus, a delicacy that is served live.

TNS

the experience in two.

Celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain dined on the dish in Queens, N.Y., for an episode of his "No Reservations" TV series.

The Guardian caught flak when one of its writers dined on live seafood and wrote a story about it. The British newspaper actually has written about the dining experience twice. Writer Joe Warwick said that twitching prawns are something of an epicurean circus act — the movement of their antennae

is caused by vestigial electrical impulses after they are essentially brain dead.

In 2002, then-Los Angeles Times Food Editor Russ Parsons made the rounds of restaurants serving live seafood, from Koreatown to Santa Monica, and deemed it "chewier and perhaps not quite as flavorful, and cut a little thicker" than sashimi.

How much different was it than eating raw oysters, which presumably are alive, Parsons asked.

Robert Elwood, an animal

behavior scientist at Queens University, Belfast, who has studied how animals register pain, is convinced that the reactions of decapods such as prawns, shrimp and lobster "fulfill the criteria of pain" as humans know it.

Decapods "show a high motivation to escape noxious stimuli, respond in ways that are conclusively not mere reflexes, have strong physiological stress responses, show symptoms of anxiety after negative treatments, and have long-

term memory of negative experiences," he said in a statement issued by PETA.

An octopus is no different, added Jennifer Mather, a biologist and psychologist at the University of Lethbridge, who has studied the animals' reaction to negative stimuli. Octopuses learn from their injuries and plan reactions to them, Mather concluded.

"In my professional opinion, an octopus whose arms are cut off is likely experiencing pain and suffering," Mather said. "This suffering

is almost certainly prolonged when the animal is deliberately kept alive until all of the arms have been ordered."

Octopuses are considered to be quite intelligent, and their seemingly well-thought-out exploits, including complicated escapes, have been chronicled widely.

In 2009, an octopus at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium managed to disassemble a water recycling valve and redirect a tube to spray outside the tank, flooding the facility.

Gulf states get \$370M in oil spill funds to restore wetlands

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Five Gulf states still seeking to restore their coastal waters and habitats after the devastating oil spill of 2010 will divvy up nearly \$370 million for an array of projects that will create new wetlands, restore fisheries, aid sea turtles and more.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the grants Tuesday for Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama

and Florida as those states strive to bounce back from one of the largest environmental disasters in history.

Millions of barrels of oil spewed into the Gulf of Mexico for 87 days after an offshore rig fire and explosion in April 2010. British Petroleum, which was found primarily responsible for the spill, has paid billions in cleanup costs, settlements and penalties.

The funding announced Tuesday in New Orleans is the fourth and largest round

of grants yet that the foundation—which oversees part of the money from criminal penalties paid by BP and other defendants—is allotting for the Gulf's recovery. That fund is getting a total of \$2.5 billion over five years for projects to repair the damage.

In a statement it said Louisiana is getting more than \$245 million, Alabama roughly \$63 million, Florida more than \$32 million, Mississippi \$16.2 million and Texas nearly \$12 million. Among other projects,

the money will help:

■ Louisiana plans for engineering and design of two major projects to divert sediment from the Mississippi River, creating new wetlands.

■ Alabama and Texas to buy land and restore significant coastal habitats.

■ Florida to monitor fisheries and improving the response to sea turtle stranding.

■ Mississippi to expand a program to monitor and help coastal birds and one to protect marine mammals and

sea turtles.

Tanner Johnson, director of the fund, said BP PLC and other defendants will make two more payments totaling about \$1 billion by Jan. 30, 2018.

Environmentalists who were not involved in the process said they were encouraged by the announcement, made at a news conference in New Orleans.

The National Wildlife Foundation is "really excited about the projects that are coming through this round,"

said Amanda Fuller, deputy director of that group's Gulf of Mexico restoration project.

She praised strategic land acquisitions as crucial to creating healthy estuaries and wetlands after the damage of oil-stained coasts in 2010.

One Texas project will move fresh water from the Sabine River into 18,000 acres of wetlands in that coastal watershed, she said.

"It's particularly interesting in Texas, which is a drought-prone state with issues in maintaining adequate flow," Fuller said.

Life & Style

Beauty & the Beast is a tale as old as time—with surprises

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Director Bill Condon was only interested in turning Disney's animated classic "Beauty and the Beast" into a live-action film if he could use Alan Menken's Oscar-winning score. He remembers fondly when it came out in 1991 and how it not only solidified Disney's animation renaissance after "The Little Mermaid," but also helped revitalize the movie musical at a time when the genre was basically dead.

The New York Times theater critic Frank Rich even called it, somewhat controversially, "the best Broadway musical score of 1991."

It's fitting, then, that the twinkling instrumentals of Menken's prologue are the first thing you hear in the new trailer for the film, released Monday by Disney.

Set for a March 1, 2017, release, the film stars Emma Watson as Belle, Dan Stevens as the Beast and a robust supporting cast including the likes of Luke Evans, Ewan McGregor, Stanley Tucci, Emma Thompson and Gugu Mbatha-Raw. The film will feature re-recordings of Menken and Howard Ashman's songs, as well as a few new ones.

"We talk about how tech-



This file photo shows a scene from the movie "Beauty and the Beast."

AP

nology is a reason for doing it 25 years later, but the fact is, too, that the genre itself has revived and people are more accepting. There's a wider audience for just the joy of breaking out into song," said Condon, who also wrote and directed "Dreamgirls." "It feels like the audience has caught up again."

Indeed, interest in the project is extraordinarily high. In its first 24 hours online, the trailer garnered 127.6 million views—besting the first day trailer stats for both "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" and "Fifty Shades Darker" by over 13 million views.

Anyone who has seen the

animated film is sure to be struck by some familiar imagery in the trailer, recreated and made real in magnificent detail—like the grand ballroom and Belle's yellow gown. But Condon was not restricted solely to drawing from the animated film.

The new movie also contains nods to Jean Cocteau's ornate black and white version from 1946, Condon said, as well as his own unique vision.

"We went in with the idea that we were going to set it in a very specific time—the early 18th century in the French countryside," Condon said. They took pains to make sure the household staff re-

sembled items—clocks, teapots, candelabras—from that time and place.

Unsurprisingly, the big, splashy technical set-piece is "Be Our Guest," in which the anthropomorphized household items stage their own Busby Berkeley-inspired number to serve Belle a meal. It wasn't easy.

"For us it was taking something that animation does easily—imagining dancing candlesticks—and making it real," he said.

The film is not just a remembrance of "Beauty and the Beasts" past, however. They've made Belle even more modern than she was in

1991, when it was somewhat extraordinary to have the center of a Disney film be more interested in books than boys. In this version, she's an inventor too, and being portrayed by an actress who is a humanitarian and a UN women's ambassador.

"Having somebody who is devoting her life to those causes was invaluable as we started to reinvent this feminist character," he said.

Also, Condon, whose films frequently deal with subjects pertaining to gay identity, is embracing that context here, too. He said the late lyricist Howard Ashman, who had AIDS at the time, closely identified with the Beast's story as "somebody who is cursed and whose curse is breaking the hearts of those who love him and the fantasy that this curse could be lifted."

Ashman died of AIDS related complications months before the animated film even hit theaters in 1991.

"Right from the start it, in a very personal way, grew out of that tragic gay moment and then beyond that it's a musical," Condon said. "I don't want to give too much away, but I think there are actually a few more explicit moments that might surprise you."

De Kooning painting fetches record \$66.3M in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A large painting from one of Willem de Kooning's most productive periods sold for \$66.3 million at Christie's auction of contemporary art.

"Untitled XXV" set a new auction record for a work by the abstract expressionist artist at its sale Tuesday evening in New York. When the painting was auctioned in 2006, it sold for \$27.1 million, then a record for any work of post-war and contemporary art.

Another major work at the auction was a painting by the German artist Gerhard Richter now owned by British singer-songwriter Eric Clapton. Christie's said "Abstract Painting" fetched just over \$20 million.

De Kooning's "Untitled XXV" was executed during a burst of creativity in the mid-1970s, following a dry spell in the late 1960s, when the artist produced a series of large paintings that were inspired by the landscape of Louse Point in Springs, New York, a bucolic hamlet in East Hampton where he moved to in 1963.

"In the '70s he found new love ... and that gave him inspiration, but also his arrival in Springs where he designed and built his own studio. He had fabulous light and he was madly in love," said Brett Gorvy, Christie's head of post-war and contemporary art.

"He suddenly found his voice again. He described this 1977 period almost like a gambler throwing dice, and each time he was a winner," Gorvy added.

An exuberant work that bursts with color and textural brush work, "Untitled XXV" measures 77 inches by 88 inches and is the artist's largest painting.

Experts consider de Kooning's work during this period "his most successful," Gorvy said. "It was a phenomenal period of creativity where he basically produced the best paintings since the work he was doing in the 50s."

"Untitled XXV" was sold by a European collector who purchased it privately in 2008. The previous auction record for a de Kooning was \$32 million for another painting from 1977. That record was set in 2013.

De Kooning died in 1997.

6 years after 'True Grit,' another breakout for Steinfeld

TORONTO (AP)—Does Hailee Steinfeld know how good she is?

It's a question writer-director Kelly Fremon Craig and producer James L. Brooks would often ask themselves after watching the young actress shoot a take while making their high-school comedy "The Edge of Seventeen."

"Jim and I would sit there and go, 'Holy god!'" says Craig. "And after we'd call cut, Jim and I would be staring at each other with our mouths open and she'd just be on her phone like she didn't even know she did something that great."

Steinfeld, an Oscar nominee at 14, is having another breakthrough at 19. In Craig's much-lauded directorial debut "The Edge of Seventeen," the young star of the Coen brothers' "True Grit" proves that she's matured into one of the finest (and funniest) actresses of her generation.

It's a comic and heartfelt coming-of-age movie in which Steinfeld stars as Nadine, a Job-like high-school junior plagued by a series of embarrassments. She's a self-de-

scribed "old soul" who resents her fellow high-schoolers as "mouth breathers"; she's equal parts narcissistic and self-loathing, and altogether witty, honest and original.

"This was one big liberating role for me," Steinfeld said in an interview earlier this fall. "It was amazing to be able to express all of that because I feel like, in a way, I haven't really been able to before. This character is so much like myself."

Steinfeld was making a brief stop at the Toronto International Film Festival, where "The Edge of Seventeen" (in theaters Friday) was the closing night film. It was brief because in between acting, Steinfeld is trying to become a pop star; in Toronto, she was in between concert stops, fresh from Radio City Music Hall, on a tour as the opening act for Meghan Trainor.

Music, she says, was always part of her plan. The transition was partly enabled by her singing turn in 2015's "Pitch Perfect 2." Shortly after its re-

lease, Steinfeld landed a record contract and put out her first EP, "Haiz," last November. Steinfeld, a pal of Taylor Swift's (she appears in Swift's "Bad Blood" video), has had some success; her single "Starving" got up to no. 14 on Billboard.

"It's definitely something that requires going in headfirst and not looking back," says Steinfeld. "When you stand on that stage, it's you. It's me going out there and being vulnerable in front of a bunch of people and having fun. And it's scary because it's so different than having that protection of being a character."

The irony is that Steinfeld, in character, is such a genuine performer and potent force of nature.

That was first evident in "True Grit," Joel and Ethan Coen's Charles Portis adaptation in which she played the scripture-quoting, pigtailed Mattie. The Coen brothers searched and searched for an actress for the part before finding the then 13-year-old Steinfeld; she was the only one

could handle Portis' ornately formal dialogue.

Steinfeld vividly remembers the Coens giggling at the spot-on precision of her audition. In her feature film debut, an uncanny command of language came naturally.

"I would get the feeling that I was in it, that I had switched on. But I never got the feeling that I switched off," she says. "In a way I felt like I had control but at the same time didn't know where it was coming from."

The experience of "True Grit" remains unmatched for Steinfeld, she says; rare are directors who so trust actors. She was among the youngest every nominated, but after the Oscars, life more or less went back to normal.

"I remember a lot of people telling me: 'Your life is about to change, so much is going to be different, blah blah blah.' After it all kind of settled down I was like: Nothing's different. I have no idea what people are talking about. I'm still me, waking up in the same bed," says Steinfeld, who grew up in Los Angeles.

Her next film didn't come out for more than two years.

She has since done Shakespeare ("Romeo & Juliet"), YA ("Ender's Game") and thrillers ("The Keeping Room"). But it wasn't until Craig and Brooks, after auditioning a thousand other girls, that Steinfeld found her next great part.

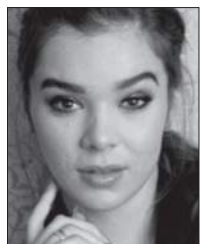
"We almost didn't believe our eyes," says Brooks. "Suddenly we had a movie."

With Brooks ("Terms of Endearment," "The Mary Tyler Moore Show") serving as her mentor, Craig set out to capture a more realistic view of high school, interviewing dozens of teenagers. But it all depended upon finding the right Nadine.

"Hailee can just turn it on in a way that I've never seen anybody be able to do before," says Craig. "There's an effortless to it. At least it looks very easy for her, which in a way makes you feel like you're witnessing some type of magic."

Her rapport with Woody Harrelson (who plays a sardonic teacher) is so good that Brooks says, "They'd be doing Tracy-Hepburn movies together the rest of their lives if he was younger."

"I feel Hailee can work and make movies for the next 50 years," Brooks says.



Steinfeld

Kelly says it's important people learn of Trump's actions

NEW YORK (AP)—Megyn Kelly said Tuesday she didn't want to reveal much about President-elect Donald Trump's treatment of her the past year so as not to be accused of trying to tip the election, but now believes it's important for people to know the story in case the new administration is hostile to the press.

In her new biography, "Settle For More," the Fox News Channel personality lays out the private stories behind what happened after her debate question on Trump's treatment of women caused the Republican to bitterly go after her on social media and in interviews.

One low point, Kelly writes, was when one of her children asked her to define "bimbo"—part of the name-calling against her—and also said she was afraid Trump would hurt her.

Even before that summer 2015 debate, Kelly writes that Trump threatened her with a Twitter storm because he'd heard she was going to ask him a particularly tough question. It raises the question of whether Kelly was sabotaged from within, but Kelly said in an interview that it may have been a bluff because Trump was concerned she would ask him about his treatment of an ex-wife.

Throughout the siege, Kelly said she was convinced Trump was trying to bait her into saying something that would disqualify her from covering the campaign, and she didn't want to be accused of favoring Hillary Clinton.

Now she believes—she hopes—there's peace between them and he has bigger things to worry about.

"Every time I thought it was over he would prove me wrong, so I'm a little reluctant to say on the record the word 'over,'" she said. "But



AP
In this May 5, 2016 file photo, Megyn Kelly poses for a portrait in New York.

I have several months to back that up and I feel that there's a warm front that's been going through."

She knows she'll never be his favorite journalist.

"That's OK with me," she said. "I'd rather be in that place where I'm not his favorite and I'm not Hillary's favorite than be his favorite so I can have access, but sell my

soul. That's really what I felt my choice was the past year. There are other journalists who could cover Trump skeptically and he wouldn't hold it against them, but there was something about me.

"I really had to choose—am I going to be an honest journalist and do that, or am I going to suck up to Trump?" she said. "I chose the former, and

it's worked out fine for me."

It was far from the only big story Kelly was involved in during the past year. Following former colleague Gretchen Carlson's lawsuit, Kelly's private testimony about former Fox News chief executive Roger Ailes' unwanted advances over a six-month period a decade ago helped lead to Ailes' firing this past sum-

mer. She alleges in the books that Ailes made sexually suggestive comments to her and tried to kiss her, then made an angry reference to her contract when she rebuffed him. Ailes has denied any untoward advances involving Kelly.

Until Carlson's lawsuit, Kelly said she knew of only one other woman at Fox with a similar experience. Since it was around the same time, she chalked it up to Ailes wanting an extramarital affair then, rather than the actions of a predator.

With Ailes under assault following the lawsuit, he reached out to Kelly through emissaries hoping she'd defend him, in essence asking her to lie for him, she said.

After the incidents and before Ailes' fall, Kelly said they had a fine professional relationship. He was generous to her family and helped advance her career.

"I'm sure he does feel betrayed by me," she said. "But I feel betrayed by him."

Kelly said she felt an obligation to women who had

been in similar circumstances to tell her story, and she wants companies to have strong measures in place to prevent such abuses.

"I want the other women out there suffering to know it can happen to anybody—even somebody like me, who had been a lawyer for nine years," she said, "because I do think women tend to blame themselves."

She acknowledged her actions led to some tensions with other people within Fox, because Ailes had engendered much loyalty. But she said a more current alleged victim came forward—although not publicly—with a story that "was deeply disturbing" and that plus the volume of accusations seemed to settle debate within the company.

Kelly said these experiences will have little to do with her deliberations over her future. Her contract with Fox expires next July and keeping her in the network's prime-time lineup is a key priority of the Murdoch family that runs 21st Century Fox.

Philippe Sands' history of war crimes wins nonfiction prize

LONDON (AP)—Human rights lawyer Philippe Sands won Britain's leading nonfiction literary award on Tuesday for a book about the fight to prosecute war crimes that blends historical investigation and family memoir.

"East West Street: On the Origins of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity" was awarded the 30,000-pound (\$37,000) Baillie Gifford Prize at a ceremony in London.

Sands, who has worked

on cases at the International Criminal Court, called the book "a double detective story." It investigates both his family's flight from Nazi-occupied Europe and the origins of international human rights law in the post-World War II Nuremberg trials of senior Nazis.

Stephanie Flanders, who chaired the judging panel, said Sands had written "a multi-layered history that is impressive in its own right but also a satisfying, sus-

penseful read."

Formerly the Samuel Johnson Prize, the award recognizes English-language nonfiction from any country.

Sands beat three other finalists: "Second-hand Time," by Belarusian Nobel literature laureate Svetlana Alexievich; Pulitzer Prize winner Margo Jefferson's Chicago memoir "Negroland"; and Libyan writer Hisham Matar's quest to discover his father's fate, "The Return."

2 arrested in assault of 'Deadliest Catch' star

EVERETT, Wash. (AP)—Police say two people accused of beating a star of the hit reality TV series "Deadliest Catch" over the weekend have been arrested.

The Spokesman-Review reports (<https://goo.gl/RD0hAu>) 30-year-old Amanda Ritter and 29-year-old Jorel Fultz were arrested and booked into the Spokane County Jail Tuesday on suspicion of robbing Jake Harris.

Everett Police Department says they received a report of a male victim of assault Sat-

urday after Harris had been found alongside a road in Everett.

He reportedly told police that he and three others were in a car coming back from a casino when a man sitting behind him began to beat him.

Police say Harris told officers his wallet and \$2,400 was missing.

Jake Harris and his family have been featured on the Discovery Channel show about fishermen in Alaska for many years.

Everett is about 30 miles north of Seattle

Kids lobby mom to return long-overdue child support

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorced and remarried mother of two adult children. Both live on their own and have decent jobs. After the divorce, I managed to keep a roof over our heads, food on the table and provide college for my children. My ex-husband, their father, sporadically paid child support, which resulted in an arrearage owed for the past nine years.

Recently, I received a substantial sum of the balance I was owed for back child support. My dilemma is that my children feel that because their father is having financial problems (finances were always his issue), I should give the money back to him because I am financially secure.

Abby, they are ignoring everything I had to do to support them while they were still dependents and my responsibility. Add into that their health care, extracurricular activities, Christmases and birthdays, etc., when he said he didn't have money.

I feel I have every right to keep the money. I have told this to my kids, but they are mad at me because I can't seem to get the message across. Your thoughts would be greatly appreciated.

FLUSTERED IN FLORIDA

DEAR FLUSTERED: You were divorced from this man for good reason. Your responsibility to him ended when the divorce was finalized. What you have received for shoul-

dering the entire responsibility for raising your children is yours and yours alone. Do not apologize to anyone for what you prefer to do with the money. And for your sake, please don't allow yourself be trapped or guilted into doing anything against your better judgment.

DEAR ABBY: I love my sister. She's well-educated, intelligent and fun, but she has let herself go. We are both in our 60s and, unfortunately, those pesky whiskers are starting to appear on our faces. She recently had surgery and when I visited her, I noticed a lot of hairs sprouting from her chin. I offered to pluck them or take her to a spa and have them removed when she had a facial. She refused!

My friends and I have made a pact to pluck each other's whiskers if we are ever in a hospital and can't do it ourselves. Should I just let it go or, the next time I see her, remind her that many people would be put off if they saw her? Or is it just me?

WHISKERLESS SISTER

DEAR WHISKERLESS: It's not "just you." Depilatories are popular because most American women wouldn't want to be caught dead with obvious facial hair.

Your letter brought back memories, one of which was my mother telling me that her first executive assistant, Katie,

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



had made Mama promise that in the event of Katie's demise, Mama would bring a razor to the viewing and, while standing at the casket, "whisk" off her mustache so no one would see it.

Not knowing your sister, I can't say whether she was in so much pain from her surgery that she didn't want to add to it by being plucked. Talk to her again when she's feeling better and she may offer up her chin. If not, love her the way she is—fur and all—because she's happy that way.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



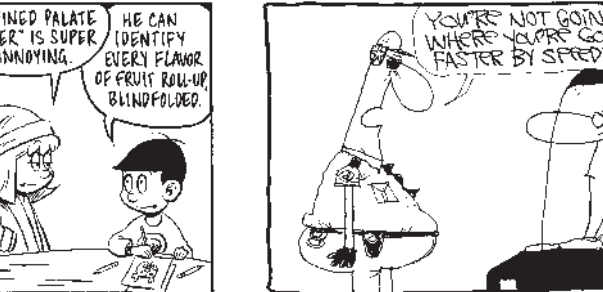
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 39 Tavern 61 Poem of 20 Brink
1 Gallery 41 Shoe 21 Detail
4 Leveling 42 Chest DOWN 22 Nitwit
wedge muscle 23 Dine
8 Skater 44 Frolic 27 Society
Lipinski 46 Prolific 29 A few
12 At once income 30 Contribute
13 Mando- source one
lin's kin 50 Bygone 31 "Yeah,
14 Russian space station 33 Sister's
river 51 Dull 35 Efron of
15 Worth of pain 7 Mini-
some opinions? 52 Second plateaus
17 Baja boy part 8 Arctic
18 Capote 56 Winter blanket
nickname 57 5-star 9 La Scala
19 Football stat review solo
21 Buffoons 58 Director 10 Pealed
24 Army Craven 43 Coconut
address 59 Casual meat
25 Male tops 16 — 45 Com-
turkey 60 Iowa city -Magnon pete
26 Paul 46 Group of
Newman actors
film 47 Skin
28 New Zealand native break-
out
32 Paradise 48 Pump, e.g.
34 Dis- 49 "Pow!"
pensated candy 53 St.
36 Rebuff 54 Marry
37 Group customs 55 Sugary
suffix

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterdays answer 11-17

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rachel McAdams, 38; Dylan Walsh, 53; Danny DeVito, 72; Martin Scorsese, 74.

Happy Birthday: Look for the right moment, and do what comes naturally. Bring about changes that will put your mind at ease and improve your future. Address situations openly and honestly, and be prepared to walk away from anything or anyone who tries to convince you otherwise. Live in the moment, but don't lose sight of the past or the future. Your numbers are 6, 11, 18, 25, 28, 34, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Proceed with caution when dealing with matters that can affect your personal or professional world. Listen carefully, be smart and be wary of anyone who may be trying to disrupt your life. Act responsibly and with compassion. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Live and learn. Observation will be a good method when trying to make a decision. Let your intuition guide you when dealing with partnerships. A clear view of a given situation will be necessary to avoid poor choices. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Networking, travel and setting up meetings will encourage positive change. Making suggestions and initiating changes will be looked upon cautiously. Follow through with actions and you will prove your point. Your charismatic approach to life will attract followers. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make emotional moves that will help boost your current position or lifestyle. Don't let overreacting be your demise. Think matters

through carefully and act with foresight. A mistake will end up being costly. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The changes going on around you will influence the way you move forward. Whether it is a personal or professional change, don't let anyone push you in a direction you don't want to go. Plan your actions and take control. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put more time and effort into self-improvement instead of trying to change others. Complaints are likely to be lodged if you aren't specific about your plans. Observe the situation and weigh the pros and cons before you proceed. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't neglect your responsibilities or your relationships. Try to recognize and address situations that have the potential to hold you back and deal with them head-on. Emotional matters will escalate if you aren't quick to respond. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Home investments and making your life more satisfying and convenient should be your goal. Making personal alterations to the way you live or look will give you the boost you need to collect your thoughts and gain ground. Love is featured. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Money matters shouldn't be influenced by your emotions. Set a high standard and refuse to go into debt for someone else's gains. Bring about positive changes by acting on your own behalf. Opportunities will be apparent if you take action and seize the moment. ***

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Speak up and explain your personal plans to someone you love. Don't be afraid to do things differently. Look for the right opportunity and make your move. Refuse to let what others do deter you from following through with your plans. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Listen and learn, but don't let anyone convince you to do things that don't fit your lifestyle or schedule. Use your intelligence and put your unique ideas into play. There is money to be made and personal opportunities available. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take control and start the ball rolling. You can make personal and professional gains if you stay focused on what needs to be done. Don't let anyone sidetrack you. Trust in your ability to get things done. Romance is in the stars. *****

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and intuitive. You are innovative and progressive. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			3	2	1	7			
	9			6				3	
3		8							
4		6							
5	8						3	9	
						6		1	
						3		2	
9								5	
	1	4	5		8				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/17
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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	3	2	8	7	6	9	4	1
7	8	9	5	1	4	3	6	2
6	4	1	3	9	2	7	5	8
2	6	5	7	3	9	1	8	4
3	7	8	4	6	1	5	2	9
1	9	4	2	5	8	6	3	7
9	2	7	6	8	5	4	1	3
8	5	3	1	4	7	2	9	6
4	1	6	9	2	3	8	7	5

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

REAR ADMIRALS Solution: 8 letters

SSAMILITARYVANY
ELPBRANCHESRATS
RSEIRETNUOCJURD
VHQEHIEDTRUDOIS
IOSUVSECGNEYARU
CUREAESEINAPIET
ELBLDMOOLIRPPA
RDDFRIRINSBKUNT
EERATESOKRWUNSS
TROICSSINN@INPAT
UBRIITAHTLAEHGR
PAFMARGREWOLSRIM
FMFTAALLITOLFAP
OOSDLANOISIVIDE
COMMANDDETCELES

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Active, Base, Boards, Branches, Command, Commissioned, Computer, Counter, Divisional, Duty, Flag, Fleet, Flotilla, Grade, Grand, Health, Junior, Lower, Maritime, Military, Navy, Officer, Orders, Paid, Public, RADM, Ranking, Ranks, Royal, Selected, Service, Ships, Shoulder, Sleeve, Squadron, Star, Station, Status, Stripes, Super, Upper
Yesterday's Answer: Brain
Treasures 13 through 26 can be purchased online in time for the holidays at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-842-6480.

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- Maintains telecommunication system by following manufacturer’s instructions for house phone and console operation.
- Maintains safe and clean reception area by complying with procedures, rules, and regulations.
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Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan. Deadline to submit application will be Friday, November 18, 2016 at 4:00 pm. For more information please call 322-2222 ext. 325 for Tania Fleming, HR Manager.

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Hawks win again, hang on to top reeling Heat, 93-90



MIAMI (AP)—The Atlanta Hawks won in a different manner than usual.

The Miami Heat, their story stayed the same.

Dennis Schroder scored 18 points, Paul Millsap and Tim Hardaway Jr. each had 15 and the Hawks pushed their winning streak to five games by beating the reeling Heat 93-90 on Tuesday night.

The Hawks were held nearly 17 points below their season scoring average, and prevailed despite shooting just 35 percent in the fourth quarter.

“To find a way to win on the road against a team that competes every night in Miami, I think it’s a positive,” Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer said.

Mike Muscala scored 14 and Kent Bazemore added 12 for the Hawks. Dwight Howard had 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Hawks, before leaving with 3:06 left in the third quarter with a bruised left thigh.

“We’re obviously not playing our best basketball yet,” Millsap said.

Hassan Whiteside scored 19 points and grabbed an NBA season-high 25 rebounds for Miami, which has now dropped six straight. The eight Heat losses so far this season have come by an average of 6.9 points—with three of the last four coming by four points or less.

All of the teams that have beaten Miami so far are currently over .500.

“We’re not losing to bad teams,” Whiteside said. “We’re right there. It makes no sense to get down on ourselves. It’s not like we’re getting blown out. We’re still a top-five defensive



Atlanta Hawks guard Dennis Schroder (17) shoots as Miami Heat guard Josh Richardson (0) defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016, in Miami.

Conference finals and could get there again.

Channing Frye’s 3-pointer from the top of the key with 59 seconds left put the Cavs up by one. Cleveland then buckled down on defense, holding the Raptors scoreless until letting Kyle Lowry make a layup with 2.8 seconds left.

Kevin Love added 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Cavs, who are 9-1 for the first time since 1976-77.

Lowry scored 28 and DeMar DeRozan added 26 for the Raptors.

Hornets 115, Timberwolves 108

In Minneapolis, Kemba Walker scored 30 points and Charlotte blitzed Minnesota in the third quarter.

Frank Kaminsky scored 12 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter for the Hornets (7-3), who snapped a two-game skid. Nicolas Batum had 16 points and seven assists, and Charlotte outscored Minnesota 36-17 in the third quarter to wipe out a 12-point halftime deficit.

Andrew Wiggins scored 29 points and Karl-Anthony Towns had 21 points and eight rebounds for the Timberwolves, who fell to 1-2 on their four-game homestand. Minnesota turned the ball over 18 times, which led to 20 points for Charlotte.

Bulls 113, Trail Blazers 88

In Portland, Ore., Jimmy But-

ler had 27 points and 12 rebounds, and Chicago opened a six-game road trip with a victory over Portland.

Dwyane Wade had 19 points for Chicago, which extended its modest winning streak to three games. Former Blazers center Robin Lopez added 13 points and 11 rebounds.

The Blazers, who had won five of six, were cold from the start, falling behind by as many as 26 points. Damian Lillard, who made just two shots from the field in the first half, finished with 19 points.

Chicago, coming off a 106-95 victory over Washington on Saturday, was without Rajon Rondo because of a left ankle sprain. Jerian Grant made his first start of the season and had 18 points.

Lakers 125, Nets 118

In Los Angeles, D’Angelo Russell scored 32 points and Julius Randle added 17 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists for his second career triple-double in surprising Los Angeles’ victory over Brooklyn.

Timofey Mozgov had 20 points and six rebounds for the Lakers, who maintained a steady lead down the stretch of their fourth win in five games at Staples Center this season.

Russell hit seven 3-pointers and had eight rebounds during the highest-scoring performance by any Lakers player in their impressive start to the season. Los Angeles’ balanced play under new coach Luke Walton has put the Lakers (7-5) two games above .500 for just the second time since April 2013.

Brook Lopez had 30 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets.

team. We’re just trying to get the offense there. We’re going to get it right.”

Josh Richardson also scored 19 for Miami, which got 14 points from Tyler Johnson, 13 from James Johnson and 11 from Dion Waiters.

Miami got within one twice in the final 13.6 seconds, but the Hawks held on with free throws. Schroder swished a

pair with 5.9 seconds left to put Atlanta up by three, and the Heat—with no timeouts—lost when Waiters’ 3-pointer hit the rim and bounced away as time expired.

“This is where you just have to have great mental resolve to stay the course,” Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. “Eventually, you get your breakthrough.”

Cavaliers 121, Raptors 117

In Cleveland, LeBron James had 28 points and 14 assists, Kyrie Irving scored 24 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Toronto Raptors to match the best start in franchise history after 10 games.

It was another tense matchup between the teams who met in last season’s Eastern

LeBron James slams Phil Jackson for using term ‘posse’

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio (AP)—LeBron James respected Phil Jackson’s unmatched coaching accomplishments. That affection has vanished.

“I’ve got nothing for him,” James said Tuesday.

James fired back at the 11-time coaching champion and current New York Knicks president for using the word “posse” in a recent interview to describe the NBA megastar’s business associates. James said he lost all respect for Jackson and his comments underline a larger societal issue for young African-Americans trying to succeed in business.

In the interview, Jackson said James has always demanded preferential treatment and called his departure from Miami as a free agent a “slap in the face” to the Heat organization. Jackson recalled a time when James asked for the team to stay over in Cleveland while on a road trip, a request that put coach Erik Spoelstra in a bind.

“You can’t hold up the whole team because you and your mom and your posse want to spend an extra night in Cleveland,” Jackson said in the ESPN interview.

The word “posse” struck a chord with James, who has surrounded himself with childhood friends during his career. Jackson’s language also touched a flash point at a time of heightened racial tension in the country. The Knicks executive is 71 and white and long tied to the flower power counter-cultural trappings from more than a generation ago. For him to now brand James’ partners with a term better suited for black gangsta culture crossed a racial divide James was unwilling to accept.

“We see the success that we have, but then there is always someone that lets you know how far we still have to go as African-Americans,”

James said Tuesday following the Cavaliers’ morning shoot-around. “I don’t believe that Phil Jackson would have used that term if he was doing business with someone else and working with another team or if he was working with anybody in sports that was owning a team that wasn’t African-American and had a group of guys around them that didn’t agree with what they did.

“I don’t think he would have called them a posse. But it just shows how far we have to go. But it won’t stop us from doing what we need to do as a group. I’ve put together a great team, I’ve empowered some guys since I was a kid and we’ve all grown together and become one of the people that try to model after, so we’re not going to let Phil Jackson’s comments stop us from doing what we need to do. It just gives us

extra motivation. But it’s still sad, though, to see that people at the top always want to try to put guys in power down.”

James was offended by Jackson’s flippant use of a term many find degrading.

“If you go and read the definition of what the word ‘posse’ is, it’s not what I’ve built over my career,” James said. “It’s not what I stand for. It’s not what my family stands for.”

Along with close friends Maverick Carter, Rich Paul and Randy Mims, James has built a sports business empire. Among the group’s most prominent successes are landing James a lifetime contract with Nike worth nearly \$1 billion and launching a film and TV production company that has partnered with Warner Bros.

Carter handles James’ business affairs while Paul serves as his agent—and for several other

top players—and Mims works with the Cavs. They formed LRMR marketing shortly after James turned pro, and the 31-year-old three-time champion was criticized for surrounding himself with friends.

“I’ve tried to put my guys in position to where they can walk in a meeting and go places and they don’t need me because they got to a point where they’ve done their homework,” James said. “They’ve studied on what they want to do and they can hold a meeting without me because of the respect that they have and the knowledge they have. That’s just 12 years of hard work and dedication that we put to each other. I know Phil’s in a position of power in our sport, but to criticize me and my guys over that is nonsense.”

The Cavs play the Knicks on Dec. 7 in Madison Square

Garden, a game surely to be intensified by the Jackson-James drama. James seemed hurt someone of Jackson’s stature would try to demean him.

“It seems like when my name is involved with other people that’s helped build the game, it’s like, ‘How can we criticize what he does on and off the floor?’ instead of trying to help me,” he said.

James has been outspoken on social issues and doesn’t intend to stop.

“My whole goal is while I have this platform and this muscle that I have right now is how can I better the youth that looks at me every single day and sees what I do and sees what I say and sees the way I walk and talk and what I wear and use it as a positive way to get out of the situation they’re in,” he said. “I’m not going to be that guy that ever downplays somebody or tries to knock someone off just to feel better about myself.”

Romo: Prescott has earned right to be Cowboys QB



FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Tony Romo stopped a reporter in the middle of what appeared to be the first question in his first meeting with the media since August.

The Dallas quarterback brought a statement, and he wasn't going to answer any questions Tuesday.

The 36-year-old coming off his fourth back injury in less than four years conceded the starting job to Dak Prescott, who has led the Cowboys (8-1) to a franchise season record-tying eight straight wins and the best record in the NFL.

And a somber Romo didn't hide his disappointment while reading the five-minute statement.

"He's earned the right to be our quarterback," Romo said of the 23-year-old rookie. "As hard as that is for me to say, he's earned that right. He's guided our team to an 8-1 record and that's hard to do."

Romo, who broke a bone in his back in a preseason game, is expected to be Prescott's backup Sunday at home against Baltimore (5-4). It should be the first time Romo is active since Thanksgiving last year, and the first time in 10 years he isn't the Dallas starter.

"If you think for a second that I don't want to be out there, then you probably never felt the pure ecstasy of competing and winning," Romo said. "That hasn't left me. In fact, it may burn now more than ever."

Romo was surprisingly reflective as well, recalling the early days of his career when he was an unheralded free agent fighting to stay on the roster. Now he's the franchise leader in passing yards and touchdowns, ahead of Super Bowl winners Roger Staubach and Troy Aikman.

But he's also in the same place Drew Bledsoe was in 2006 when Romo replaced an ineffective Bledsoe at half-time of a loss to the New York Giants six games into the season and never gave up the starting job.

"I remember the feeling like it was yesterday," Romo said. "It really is an incredible time in your life. And if I remember one thing from back then, it's the people that helped me along when I was young. And if I can be that to Dak, I tried to be and I will be going forward."

Romo signed the first \$100 million contract in franchise history in 2013 and counts \$20.8 million against the salary cap this season. The cap hit next year is nearly \$25 million, but the Cowboys can reduce it by roughly \$5 million if they release him.

AP
Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo speaks to the media Tuesday. Romo says Dak Prescott has "earned the right" to take his job as starting quarterback of the team.



The mood was more jovial earlier in the day when owner and general manager Jerry Jones made one of his weekly radio appearances.

"I paid a lot of money for a backup quarterback as you well know," Jones said, referring to Kyle Orton's \$3 million salary as Romo's backup several years ago. "And this, by the way, is going to be the record for having paid this for a backup quarterback."

The Cowboys went 1-11 in the 12 games Romo missed

last season with a twice-broken left collarbone. When he immediately grabbed his back after getting tackled awkwardly from behind in the preseason against Seattle, Dallas' hopes seemed doomed again.

But Prescott had already shown promise in the preseason. And after a one-point loss to the New York Giants in the opener, he has led fourth-quarter comebacks and easy victories alike while compiling the fourth-best passer

rating (106.2) with 14 touchdowns and just two interceptions.

"We all know something magical is happening to our team," Romo said. "I'm not going to allow this situation to negatively affect Dak or this football team by becoming a constant distraction. I think Dak knows that I have his back. And I think I know that he has mine."

After Romo went down in Seattle, the initial word was that his surgically repaired

back had withstood the hit. But the broken bone was diagnosed the next day, with an initial timeframe of six to 10 weeks to recover.

"Getting hurt when you feel like you have the best team you've ever had was a soul-crushing moment for me," Romo said. "You almost feel like an outsider. Coaches are sympathetic, but they still have to coach. And you're not there. It's a dark place, probably the darkest it's ever been."

Part of the darkness came from Romo realizing where he is in his career.

"Seasons are fleeting," he said in a speech with several pauses. "Games become more precious. Chances for success diminish. Your potential successor has arrived, injured two years in a row and now in the mid-30s, the press is whispering, everyone has doubts, you've spent your career working to get here."

And now Romo's a backup again.

No. 1 pick Jared Goff to debut Sunday for Los Angeles Rams

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP)—Jared Goff is ready to show the Los Angeles Rams he was worth the wait.

Goff will make his NFL debut Sunday when the No. 1 pick faces the Miami Dolphins as the Rams' starting quarterback.

"I think it's time," Goff said after practice Tuesday. "I'm ready to move forward and play. I'm just going to work hard and hopefully win."

Goff watched the first nine games of his rookie season on the sideline for the Rams, who have scored an NFL-worst 15.4 points per game with one of the league's least productive offenses.

Veteran Case Keenum has started every game, passing for 2,169 yards with 11 interceptions and nine TDs.

Goff will debut in front of his home fans at the Coliseum, where Rams fans frustrated by a dismal offensive season chanted "We want Goff!" two weeks ago during a loss to Carolina.

"We're expecting him to play well and win games for us, so it's an exciting time for us," Rams coach Jeff Fisher said.

After weeks of increasing scrutiny on the offense's struggles, Fisher finally decided to see what they've got in Goff. Los Angeles couldn't score a touchdown in last weekend's 9-6 victory over the New York Jets, failing to reach the end zone for the third time in nine games.

Los Angeles traded several high draft picks to Tennessee in April to move up to draft Goff, hoping to solve years of underperformance at the NFL's most important position. The Rams also traded up to make a splash in their return to Los Angeles after a 21-year sojourn in St. Louis, where they hadn't made the playoffs since 2004 or had a winning record since 2003.

But after Goff didn't beat out Keenum for the job in the preseason, Fisher repeatedly declined to promote the rookie over the past two months even

while his offense struggled on almost a weekly basis, saying he wanted Goff to be in an ideal position to succeed.

It's increasingly clear that the Rams' offense doesn't provide an optimal opportunity for any quarterback, but at least Goff will now be learning on the job.

"It wasn't a spontaneous decision," Fisher said. "It was a progression. It's a gut feel. It's not an easy thing. It takes time, and we gave it time, and it was the right decision. We're looking forward to watching him play. ... He's going to have some moments, like all young quarterbacks do, but he's going to do well."

The Rams' offense is 31st in the NFL with just 308.0 yards per game. Their passing game is ranked 25th with 225.4 yards per game, increasing in recent weeks because of Los Angeles' profound struggles running the ball.

The Coliseum crowd has been eager for a change, booing the offense and chanting

for the rookie while the Rams struggled through a 13-10 loss to Carolina two weeks ago. Los Angeles couldn't score against the Panthers until midway through the fourth quarter.

The Rams then failed to reach the end zone against the Jets, but the defense carried them to their first win since early October.

Fisher had finally seen enough on the field—and from Goff in practice—to warrant the inevitable change.

"It feels like a long time since I've got out there and played," Goff said. "I'm excited to get back out there. ... I saw a lot of stuff from the sidelines, as much as you can see during games, and learned from a lot of the things Case did, good and bad. It's been a long process, I guess, trying to pick up everything and get ready for it. I think I have, and I think I've been ready for a little while. I feel good, and I feel excited."

Goff, who turned 22 last month, was a three-year start-

er at California in a spread offense bearing little resemblance to the Rams' more pro-style schemes. That additional learning curve persuaded the Rams to be patient, but Keenum has struggled along with the Los Angeles offense, repeatedly failing to make big plays in important situations.

The veteran has thrown eight interceptions and five TD passes over the past five games for the Rams, who endured a four-game skid before last weekend's win.

Goff will get his first shot against the Dolphins, who have the NFL's ninth-ranked passing defense with potent pass-rushers Ndamukong Suh and Cameron Wake, who have combined for 12 sacks.

Goff is the first quarterback chosen with the top pick who didn't start his team's opener since JaMarcus Russell in 2007. Since then, Matt Stafford, Sam Bradford, Cam Newton, Andrew Luck and Jameis Winston had all started their teams' first games.

Armatech gets first win, stuns 8th Division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Armatech/MDX barged into the win column following an 84-78 upset over 8th Division/MAFEA in the curtain-raiser in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Armatech drew a solid offensive performance from the backcourt trio of Jun Alipio Jr., Bernard Montano, and Martin Moreno to snap its three-game losing skid and bring 8th Division's hopes of an automatic semis bid out the window. 8th Division fell to a 4-3 record and is still behind the unbeaten Ali'i Blue Haus (7-0) and Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle (6-1). The Top 2 squads after the round-robin elimination will get the outright semis berths.

Alipio and Montano scored



minutes of play, while Montano nailed only 2 points, as Armatech hung on to a shaky 16-15 advantage.

The trio then combined for all but 2 of Armatech's 22 points in the second period to extend the teams lead to 7 at the break, 38-31. Armatech then kept the upper hand in the third, 58-55, as Montano and Alipio remained on target in the penultimate period, combining for 11 markers.

8th Division failed to overhaul Armatech's lead as only Jun Tabora and Alex Lauron consistently hit baskets for

22 points each for Armatech, while Moreno chipped in 14. The three players made all of Armatech's baskets in the final canto to survive 8th Division's repeated comeback bids. Montano dropped 13 points in the playoff quarter, while Moreno registered 7, including Armatech's last two field goals. Alipio had 5.

The three Armatech players stepped up in the homestretch after an uneventful first quarter. Moreno and Alipio were scoreless in the opening 10

minutes of play, while Montano nailed only 2 points, as Armatech hung on to a shaky 16-15 advantage.

The trio then combined for all but 2 of Armatech's 22 points in the second period to extend the teams lead to 7 at the break, 38-31. Armatech then kept the upper hand in the third, 58-55, as Montano and Alipio remained on target in the penultimate period, combining for 11 markers.

8th Division failed to overhaul Armatech's lead as only Jun Tabora and Alex Lauron consistently hit baskets for

their team. The two had 20 of their 23 points in the final frame. Rodney Catalla made the 3 other points off a triple.



Armatech/MDX 84 – Alipio 22, Montano 22, Moreno 14, Tolosa 6, J. Malasarte 5, Berline 4, Asuhan 4, Gabaldon 3, B. Malasarte 2.

8th Division 78 – J. Tabora 25, Lauron 17, Fitial 7, Catalla 5, Lansang 4, D. Tabora 4, Diaz 4, Alipio 3, Zapata 2, Tenorio 2, Itibus 2, Manabat 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 38-31, 58-55, 84-76.

Costa Rica routs US as Americans drop to 0-2 in qualifying

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)—Wave after wave of opponents kept overwhelming beleaguered and befuddled Americans.

Only these players were Costa Ricans in red jerseys, not Brazilians in yellow or Italians in blue.

With one of its worst performances in decades, the United States put itself in a deep—but not insurmount-

able—hole in World Cup qualifying.

“There’s going to need to be some urgency,” U.S. captain Michael Bradley said after Tuesday night’s 4-0 wipeout. “We’re going to have to look collectively real hard in the mirror at ourselves and understand it’s not been a good start. But the reality of



this hexagonal format is that nothing is lost yet, not even close. So anybody who thinks that is sorely mistaken.”

Johan Venegas scored in the 44th minute, Cristian Bolanos doubled the lead in the 68th and second-half substitute Joel Campbell beat beleaguered goalkeeper Brad Guzan in the

MCS

From Page 28

Community School, and No. 5 Mt. Carmel School 1.

Agape Christian School, Marianas Baptist Academy, Seventh Day Adventist, and SIS 2, on the other hand, were the other teams scheduled to play in the first round of the playoffs.

Agape went on to receive a free ticket to the quarterfinals after winning via forfeiture against MBA yesterday, while results of the SDA-SIS 2 match were unavailable at press time.

With its victory, Agape set up a quarterfinal duel against GCA 1 today at the Eagles court in Navy Hill. Also slated today are two more playoff matches with SCS hosting MCS 1 and SIS 1 meeting the winner between the SDA-SIS 2 tiff at the Geckos turf in As Lito. All matches will start at 3:30pm.

The playoff round will continue next week with the two semis games set for Monday and the winner-take-all finale on Tuesday. Venues of the semis and championship matches will be announced later.

CHACHA

From Page 28

lead in the first half and never looked back. Jay Art Palmer led Chacha with his 22 points.

Chacha and Hopwood 5 are among the six teams playing in the middle school division of the Public School System-organized tournament that started last week. Chacha also played yesterday against Dandan Middle School and seemed headed for another win as it led big in the first half, 23-4.

In other results in last Monday and Tuesday’s matches, Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School notched two victories in the girls division, while Tanapag Middle School and Hopwood 4 downed their separate foes.

FMS first won against Hopwood A, 18-8, and then prevailed over Dandan Middle School, 20-4. Marinel, Emalumpa, Judy Andebor, and Claire Barrozo teamed up in the victory after combining for 14 points against Hopwood A.

Versus Dandan, Ramona Cabrera registered 8 points to lift FMS to another victory.

In the boys division, Hopwood 4 dominated Hopwood 5, 45-22, while Tanapag posted the closest win this week following a 31-30 triumph over Dandan Middle School.

The middle school and ninth grade games are played from Monday and will run until Dec. 1. Playoff matches have yet to be scheduled.

The tournament will also have separate competitions for

the boys and girls varsity and high school. The girls high school contest will be held this weekend with a round-robin format, while the girls varsity and boys high school competitions are schedule for Dec. 9 and 2, respectively.

The season will then culminate with a High School Invitational on Dec. 10 with Kagman High School, Marianas High School, and Saipan Southern High School battling five private schools and one from Rota and Tinian.

BRILLIANT

From Page 28

Ashley and Aasish handed Brilliant Star 36 points off their first place swims in the girls 9 to 10’s 100m backstroke and 100m butterfly and boys U8’s 200m individual medley and 50 butterfly. Nine points were given to the first finisher, while the next two were awarded with 7 and 6 markers.

Brilliant Star got 16 points in the girls U8’s 50m backstroke with Fiona Regan and Hara placing in the Top 2, while Fiona’s older sister Cassie added 5 in the same event in the girls 9 to 10 division. Moshe and Asakuru combined for 15 points as they

were ranked first and third, respectively, in the boys U8 division, while Sekiguchi tallied 9 points from the same swim after ruling the girls 11 to 12 age group.

In the 50m breaststroke, Nanaka and Suzuki had a 1-2 finish for Brilliant Star’s 16 markers, while Kouki and Moshe Sikkell contributed 16 for finishing first and third, respectively.

Moshe’s sister Savita earned 7 points in the 200m freestyle after coming in at second in the girls U10 division, while Hara and Fiona chipped in 7. In the 50m freestyle, Brilliant Star hauled 31 points off Kouki and Suzuki’s first place finishes in the boys U8 and girls 9 to 10 age group, respective-

ly, Hara and Asakura’s fifth place finishes, and Cassie’s eighth ranking.

In the 100m breaststroke, Brilliant Star gained 16 more points besides Ashley’s 9 after Nanaka and Savita came in at first and second in the girls U10 age group. In the 100m freestyle, Sekiguchi delivered 9 points for the champion school after beating Whispering Palms’ Erin Frink.

Brilliant Star capped its outstanding showing in the weekend event with a first place finish in the mixed 200m freestyle relay. Sekiguchi was the first swimmer and was followed by Moshe and Suzuki, while Aasish anchored Brilliant Star’s top finish as their team clocked in at 3:05.96.

Aasish and company were joined in the Top 3 by SIS (3:36.54), and GCA (3:28.52). Mizuki Suzuki, Seiyul Hong, Christian Newman, and Rentaro Suzuki swam for the Geckos, while the Eagles were represented by Kean Pajarillaga, Julia Jinang, Soleil Lamar, and Michael Miller.

Three Whispering Palms teams joined the relay and they were ranked fourth, fifth, and eighth, while Brilliant Star’s second squad came in at sixth. GTC rounded out the finishers.

Meanwhile, the All Schools meet also featured competitions in the middle and high school divisions and results will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*’s Friday issue.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

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2016 SSC All Schools Swim Meet

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Coach Jeff Race, back row left, and his Whispering Palms School swimmers pose for a photo during the parade of teams in the 2016 SSC All Schools Swim Meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



Grace Christian Academy swimmers and their school officials gather for a group photo before the start of the parade of teams.



Brilliant Star School students lead the parade of teams.



Tanapag Middle School swimmers make their way to the pool.



Saipan International School teacher Kathy Pagapular-Ruszala, right, joins their swimmers at the parade of squads.



Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School students join the parade of teams.



Hopwood Junior High School students are all smiles as they participate in the parade of teams.



Mt. Carmel School students are present at the parade of teams.



Marianas High School swimmers pose for a photo.



Hawks win again, hang on to top reeling Heat, 93-90

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Romo: Prescott has earned right to be Cowboys QB

PAGE 25



28 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Brilliant Star shines in swim meet

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ashley Dangol raced for for Brilliant Star in last Saturday's 2016 Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swim Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Brilliant Star School ruled the elementary division of the 2016 Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swim Meet held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Brilliant Star collected 216 points out of the 38 events contested in the weekend com-

petition to take the top honors in the division against Grace Christian Academy (150),

perennial champion Whispering Palms (133), Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School (87), Saipan International School (85), William S. Reyes Elementary School (32), Seventh Day Adventist Elementary School (18), and Saipan Community School (18).

Eleven swimmers suited up for Brilliant Star with siblings Ashley and Aasish Dangol

leading the squad. Completing the team are Mosh and Savita Sikkell, Cassie and Fiona Regan, Nanaka and Kouki Watanabe, Risa Sekiguchi, Keisuke Asakura, and Sakura Hara. They scored points for Brilliant Star based on their finishes in individual and relay races.

See BRILLIANT on Page 26

MCS 2 eliminates Whispering Palms

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School 2 pulled off an upset over Whispering Palms at the start of the playoff round in the middle school division of the 2016-2017 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League.

The Knights swept Whispering Palms, 25-14, 25-14, at the latter's court in Navy Hill yesterday to advance to the quarterfinals. MCS 2 was ranked last after the double-round robin regular season with its dismal 1-17 record, making the team the underdog in its playoff showdown against Whispering Palms. The host, on the other hand, finished the elimination round

with an 8-9 mark to place No. 6 in the team standings.

"We won only once in the regular season against Agape.

Today (yesterday), we managed to get another victory and it's the playoff round so this matters a lot," said coach John



Hernandez yesterday after their two-set triumph over the favored Whispering Palms.

Next up for the Knights are Grace Christian Academy 2, which drew a bye in the first round and automatically moved into the quarterfinals after placing third in the regular season.

Also earning outright Round of 8 berths were top finisher Grace Christian Academy, second-ranked and defending champion Saipan International School 1, No. 4 Saipan

See MCS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mt. Carmel School 2's Devin Muna makes a return to Whispering Palms School during the second set of their middle school division playoff game in the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the WPS court.

Chacha routs Hopwood 5



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Chacha Oceanview Middle School player pulls up for a jumper against a Dandan Middle School defender during their game in the 2016 Wellness Through Basketball Tournament yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Chacha Oceanview Middle School cruised to a 45-20 victory over Hopwood Junior High School 5 in the contin-

uation of the 2016 Wellness Through Basketball Tournament last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Chacha proved to be too much for Hopwood 5, as the former opened a 23-9

See CHACHA on Page 26